

No 61,435

Earnings increase by 8.5 pc

Average earnings rose by an underlying 8.5 per cent in the year to November...

Water unions in talks

Talks aimed at averting the first national strike threatened from midnight on Sunday...

Benn seat

Mr Wedgwood Benn MP, whose Bristol South East seat is to disappear under boundary changes...

Tory 12 1/2% lead

The Conservative lead over Labour has doubled since last month to 12 1/2 per cent...

Gas explosion

Three people were injured last night in an explosion at a British Gas terminal in the Isle of Grain, Kent...

IRA threat

A photograph of Mr Patrick Gilmore, the father of a supergrass, has been sent with a warning to his family...

Powell dispute



Mr Enoch Powell has challenged the Secretary of the Cabinet to sponsor legal action against him over the disputed report of conversations about the future of the Falklands...

War accusation

Mr Maurice Papon, a minister during the Giscard d'Estaing presidency, was charged yesterday with involvement 40 years ago in deportation of Jews to extermination camps...

Bugging scandal

The Irish Government is likely to issue a statement today in the face of a deepening scandal over telephone tapping during the Haughey Administration...

N Sea bonus

Auctioning exploration acreage in the latest North Sea licensing round is likely to yield £30m for the Government...

Tour sellout

In spite of an offer from the South African Government to help underwrite the West Indian tour, Mr Joe Parness, president of the South African Cricket Union, said it may not be necessary as the tour was attracting full houses...

Leader page 11

Letters: On metropolitan counties, from Councillors J Gummell and J Royston Moore; youth training, from Mr J Wood; Tasmania dam, from Professor K Mellanby...

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Arts, Books, Business, Court, Crossword, Diaries, Events, Law Report. Includes sub-sections like Parliament, Sale Rooms, Science, Sport, TV & Radio, Theatres, Universities, Weather, Wills.

Threat of new Falklands conflict causes US concern

There is growing concern in Washington about a possible new outbreak of hostilities between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands. This concern has been heightened by recent large Argentine arms purchases, increased activity by the Argentine Air Force and accelerated training programmes for the armed forces...

Carrington proposes long-term treaty

A new Antarctic treaty allowing British administration of the Falkland Islands under international sovereignty was proposed by Lord Carrington yesterday as an eventual answer to Anglo-Argentine confrontation in the South Atlantic. But the former Foreign Secretary, in an interview on the morning after publication of the Franks report, emphasized that it was only a long-term possibility to be explored in the future...

Castro sees the human factor in Russian roulette

Graham Greene and President Castro are two men of whom it can be said, without argument, that they have always lived the matter very seriously. So it is not so surprising that when Mr Greene recently visited Cuba, the writer and the revolutionary engaged in an amusing dialogue about the secret of a long and healthy life. Mr Greene, after all, has spent a lifetime travelling to the world's trouble spots to research the background for his novels...



Mr James Callaghan: 'Threats not met professionally'

Apathy of Thatcher amazes Callaghan

Mr James Callaghan last night set the tone of the Opposition attack on the Government in next week's two-day debate on the Franks Report, when he accused Mrs Thatcher of lacking both interest and professionalism in dealing with the threat of a Falkland invasion. He told The Times that he was willing to ride any counter-attack against himself, based on the Franks Report verdict of the 1977 incident when two frigates and a nuclear-powered submarine were sent to the South Atlantic...

Public may get say on cruise

The Government is likely to commission a public opinion poll in the next month or two to enable it to assess attitudes to the proposed deployment of cruise missiles in Britain. The first British-based cruise missiles are due to become operational at Greenham Common in Berkshire in December. Ultimately, in the absence of any international agreement to limit the number of so-called theatre nuclear weapons, there will be 96 cruise missiles at Greenham and 64 at Molesworth in Cambridgeshire...

Brussels shocked by grain deal

The European Commission has urgently demanded to be given details of an agreement by the United States, announced on Tuesday, to sell one million tonnes of wheat flour to Egypt at subsidized prices. After study, the Commission will decide whether it should take the United States before the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), if it feels that the selling price for the flour is being unfairly subsidized. The flour sale could be the first really explosive round fired in the agricultural trade war which has been looming between the EEC and the United States...

Two policemen given bail on shooting charge

Two Metropolitan Police detectives, charged after last week's shooting of Mr Stephen Waldorf, were granted unconditional bail at a three-minute court hearing yesterday. Det Constable John Jardine, aged 37, of the criminal intelligence branch, is accused of attempting to murder Mr Waldorf on January 14 at Pembroke Road, Kensington, west London. Det Constable Peter Finch, also aged 37, and attached to 'D' district covering the Paddington area, is accused of attempting to wound Mr Waldorf at the same place on the same day. Both charges were brought under the section 1(1) of the Criminal Attempts Act, 1981. The two officers, who stood side by side in Horseferry Road magistrates court in London, had the charges read to them by the clerk of the court. They were remanded on bail until March 17 by Mr Edmund MacDermott, a stipendiary magistrate. Reporting restrictions were not lifted. Mr Michael Chance, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, said there were no conditions stipulated in the Bail Act which would cause the prosecution in this case to seek remand in custody, or have conditions attached to bail. Mr Robert Roscoe, solicitor for Constable Jardine, and Mr John Webber, for Constable Finch, each successfully applied for legal aid for the two policemen. After the brief appearance in the packed court, the two detectives were driven away in a police car. If found guilty, both officers could face life sentences. The maximum penalties for attempted murder and attempted wounding are the same as for the actual offence. Both carry a discretionary sentence up to a possible maximum of life. Section one of the Criminal Attempts Act, 1981, which came into force on August 27, 1981, created a statutory offence of the attempt to commit a crime. An offence is committed where a person does something which is 'more than merely preparatory' to a crime. Based largely on recommendations of the Law Commission, the Act codified in statute existing provisions in common law. Doctors at St Stephen's Hospital yesterday reported that they were pleased with Mr Waldorf's progress and announced for the first time that he was no longer in any immediate danger. A statement from the hospital said that although Mr Waldorf, age 26, a film editor, was still in an intensive care unit 'all of his major injuries have responded well to treatment'. Minor surgery had been carried out on an arm wound and other minor surgery would be required as other wounds heal. Mr Waldorf could no longer be regarded as critically ill. Mr Waldorf's parents, who are staying at the hospital, had a few hours sleep last night and were also pleased with his progress, the statement said. During the day, Mr Waldorf was taken off the ventilator, the artificial respirator which has helped him breathe, for a short time and the hospital said it hoped to build up the periods without the machine.

Commons to investigate Livingstone's 'threat'

The Commons decided yesterday that an alleged threat by Mr Kenneth Livingstone against London MPs should be referred to the Select Committee of Privileges for investigation. The powerful 16-man committee, whose members include Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, Mr John Biffen, leader of the Commons, and Mr David Steel, the Liberal Leader, has powers to imprison transgressors. The GLC leader and Mr John McDonnell, chairman of the GLC finance and general purposes committee, who also figured in the complaint by two MPs, could be summoned to appear. MPs decided by 203 votes to 162 that the complaint over words allegedly spoken by Mr Livingstone and Mr McDonnell indicating an intention to restrict new services in the constituencies of London MPs who failed to support a forthcoming GLC money Bill should be investigated. They did so in spite of a letter from Mr Livingstone to the speaker, Mr George Thomas, which, in effect, denied that a threat had been made. The complaint from Mr Ron Brown, SDP MP for Hackney, South and Shoreditch, and Mr John Wheeler, Tory MP for Paddington, arose from reports last week that London's 92 MPs were to be given an ultimatum after the Government had rejected a GLC application to spend an extra £75m. In a statement on behalf of himself and Mr McDonnell, Mr Livingstone said last night: 'We are surprised that Parliament has decided that it is more important to waste time discussing press reports of our thoughts rather than deal with the vital issues of unemployment and peace.'

Alternative for dam rejected by Tasmania

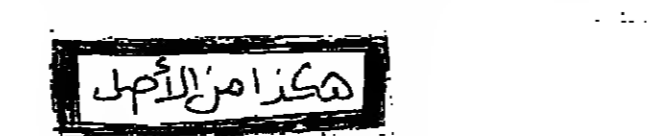
Hopes of reaching a compromise in the controversy over the Gordon-below-Franklin hydroelectric dam in Tasmania received a setback yesterday when Mr Robin Gray the Tasmanian Premier, rejected an offer by Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, to give the island \$A500m (£312m) to build a coal-fired power station instead. (Ton Duboulin writes from Melbourne). While Mr Fraser was announcing his offer in Hobart, Dr David Bellamy, the British botanist, and 27 other protesters against the dam began a hunger strike in jail. World heritage, page 6 Letters, page 11

Why Do You Read So Slowly?

A WORLD-FAMOUS educationalist reports that there is a simple technique of rapid reading which enables you to double your reading speed and yet retain much more. Most people do not realise how much they could increase their pleasure, success and income by reading faster and more accurately. The details of this method are described in a fascinating book, 'How To Read Faster - And Remember More', sent free on request. According to this educationalist, anyone, regardless of his present reading skill, can use this simple technique to improve his reading ability to a remarkable degree. Whether reading stories, books, or technical matter, you can read sentences at a glance and entire pages in seconds with this method. Rapid reading brings rapid rewards: to professional and business people, by dramatically cutting the time they spend on paperwork... to students and schoolchildren, by making their studies easier and more enjoyable... to busy housewives, by doubling their reading pleasure snatched in precious leisure moments from the day's routine... to hobby enthusiasts, by enabling them to keep up with everything that is written about their chosen interests. Remember, rapid reading means rapid understanding - you'll absorb the full sense of the words. To acquaint all readers of the Times with the easy-to-follow rules for developing rapid reading skill, the educationalist has printed full details of this interesting self-training method in a 24-page book 'How To Read Faster - And Remember More', sent free on request. No obligation. Simply return the coupon on page 4 (no need even to stamp your envelope, or write to: Reading Improvement Programme, (Dept TSB5), FREEPOST, Manchester M3 8BA.



Do you plod as you read? Remember, rapid reading means rapid understanding - you'll absorb the full sense of the words. To acquaint all readers of the Times with the easy-to-follow rules for developing rapid reading skill, the educationalist has printed full details of this interesting self-training method in a 24-page book 'How To Read Faster - And Remember More', sent free on request. No obligation. Simply return the coupon on page 4 (no need even to stamp your envelope, or write to: Reading Improvement Programme, (Dept TSB5), FREEPOST, Manchester M3 8BA.



What you're looking at is no Sea of Tranquility.

Neither is it a scene from the imagination of some science-fiction artist (although we commissioned one of Britain's finest sci-fi artists to paint it).

It is what you would actually see if the waters of the North Sea suddenly became invisible.

Silhouetted against a huge moon are the four giant production platforms that form the core of the Brent oilfield.

The Brent Field, operated by Shell, lies far out to sea, roughly halfway between Scotland and Norway, and about 100 miles northeast of Shetland.

The painting shows (from left) the production platforms Delta, Charlie, Bravo and Alpha, each towering well over 700 feet above the seabed in its steel, or concrete, socks.

They are built to withstand one-hundred foot waves and winds gusting up to 160 mph while continuing to collect oil and gas, 24 hours a day, from rock depths lying some two miles beneath the sea-floor.

Floating in the far distance (bottom right) is the drilling rig Stadriil, prospecting for oil in another part of the Brent Field.

And riding the invisible seas with contemptuous ease (top right) is the 23,000 ton semi-submersible, pipe-laying barge Semac I.

FLAGS: a major new gas-gathering scheme in the North Sea.

We used Semac I to lay one of the world's longest, largest, deepest undersea pipelines. (The painting shows the pipe being fed over the stern of the barge and trailing down to the seabed.)

The pipeline is the backbone of a major new North Sea gas-gathering scheme known to the oil industry as FLAGS: Far North Liquids & Associated Gas System.

It will enable us to bring ashore the substantial and hitherto untapped gas reserves of Brent and other oilfields in the northern North Sea.

The FLAGS pipeline, 36" across and made of steel coated with concrete, runs 280 miles along the seabed between the Brent Field and St. Fergus in Scotland.

Laying it was an astonishing feat.

The North Sea is no millpond. It is quite the most hostile stretch of water the oil and gas industry has ever tackled.

Much of the pipeline was laid in appalling weather: force 10 gales, thick fog rolling in the troughs between giant waves, zero visibility.

The FLAGS system will before long be supplying some 12% of Britain's gas needs. (The Brent Field already supplies about an eighth of Britain's oil.)

But neither statistics nor adjectives (nor the vastness of our operating costs) can ever give you a real sense of the scale and scope of our work in the North Sea.

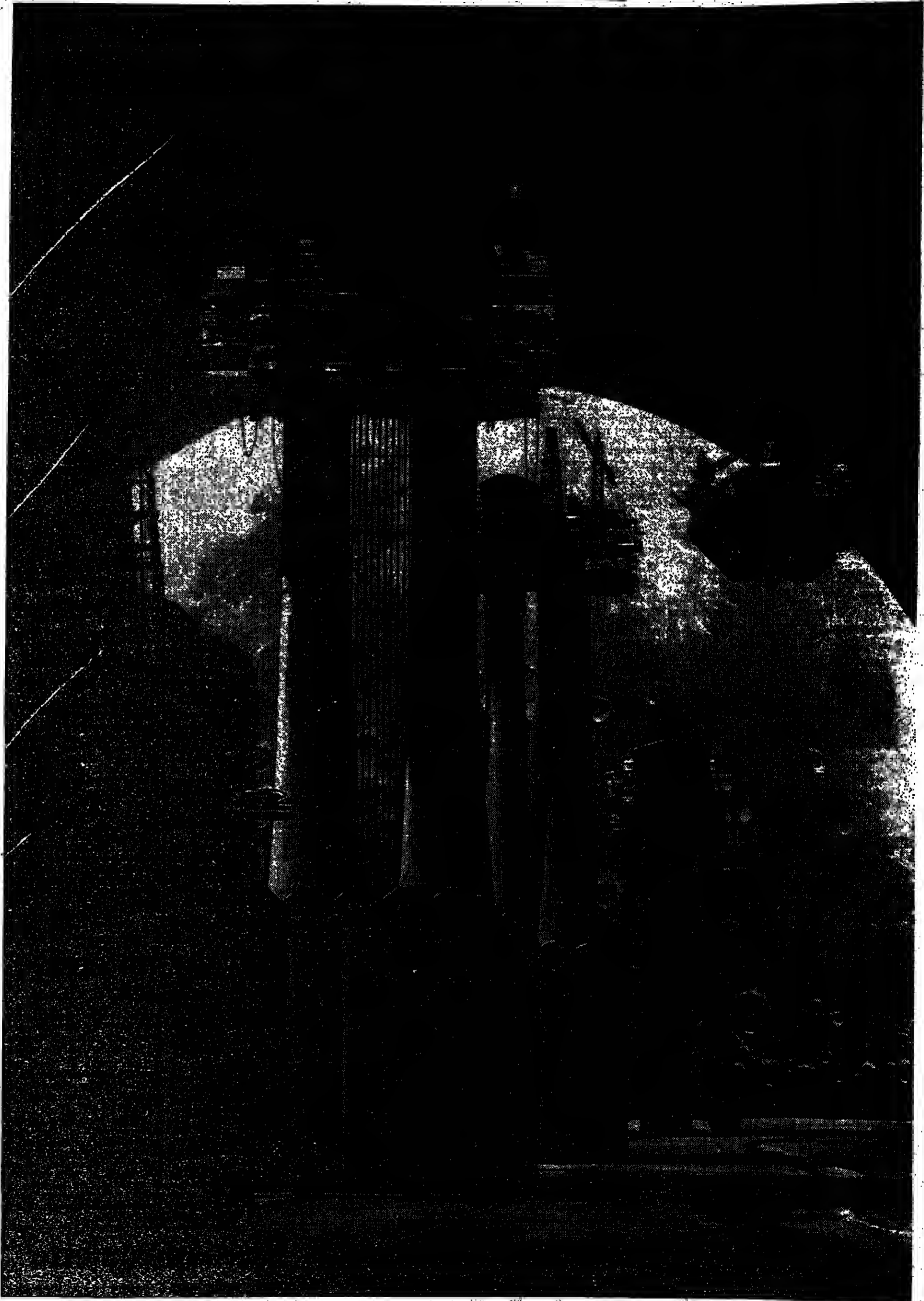
The Brent Field: an offshore oiltown.

The Brent Field, for instance, does not simply consist of the four great platforms attended by a pipe-laying barge and a drilling rig or two.

Several other giant structures (like the floating oil-storage and loading facility, Spar) are nearby. And platforms may be attended by 'flotels' (floating hotels) and semi-submersible diving barges.

Tugs, tankers and supply boats ply the surface, the latter bringing in everything from drill-pipe, cement for well-casing and drilling mud, to food and fuel.

Under the surface, mini subs and diving-bells are at work. While in the skies, helicopters constantly come and go,



bringing in vital tools and flying drilling crews and other technicians in and out.

Our platforms and rigs are crewed by over 3,000 men, who manage to tuck away well over 100 tons of food each week.

Power to keep the big platforms working is generated by turbines similar to those which fly large jet aircraft.

Computer banks continuously receive and process information about subsea oilwells and the many working functions of each platform, key data being relayed simultaneously to the platforms and Shell headquarters in Aberdeen.

The cost of these operations is so immense that it beggars description.

One way of putting it is that Shell's expenditure in the North Sea has amounted to more than half a million pounds per day, every day for the last eighteen years.

When we add up our chequebook stubs, our total investment to date works out at more than £4,000 million in 1981 money. Those figures double when you include the sums invested by us on behalf of our partners.

A conquest to rival the moon-landings.

Although there are projects which cost more, in terms of sheer technological innovation there is no other achievement on earth to match the conquest of the North Sea.

We have pushed back the limits of technology so far that the only feat which invites comparison is otherworldly: the placing of the first men on the moon by NASA's Apollo space programme.

As a matter of fact, the computer-room that monitors our operations has a great deal in common with that famous control-room in Houston.

And Shell is proud to be in the forefront of an endeavour which only twenty years ago, would have been dismissed as pure science-fiction.

You can be sure of Shell



IRA sends photograph of 'kidnap victim' with threat to supergrass son

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A photograph of a man believed to be held by the Provisional IRA has been sent to his family with an appeal for help to retract statements implicating 40 people in terrorist-type crimes.

The picture of Mr Patrick Gilmore, aged 62, was with a letter posted in Antrim which gave a warning that Mr Raymond Gilmore, his son, would be mistaken if he thought the IRA would not act against his father.

The letter said they knew that Mr Raymond Gilmore, who disappeared from his home with his wife and two young children last summer, was being told by police that the IRA would not act but it added ominously: "The IRA must protect itself."

Mr Patrick Gilmore is believed to have been abducted by three men from his home in Londonderry nine weeks ago and yesterday's development is seen as another crude attempt by terrorists to put pressure on alleged informers whose statements to the police led to raids and arrests last year.

Mr Gilmore is shown holding a copy of the January 10 edition of *The Irish News*, a mainly nationalist newspaper published daily in Northern Ireland. As well as the letter to his family at their home in the Creggan area

From Richard Ford, Belfast

of Londonderry, another one was posted from Antrim to the BBC.

Yesterday, after receiving the letter and picture, the abducted man's daughter appealed to her brother to withdraw his evidence.

Mr Raymond Gilmore, his wife, and their two young children, disappeared from their flat on the Creggan Estate last summer after telling friends and relatives they were going on holiday.

Hours' later raids began in republican areas of the city which were the biggest since Operation Motorman in the 1970s when the security forces moved in to end the no-go areas.

The raids last summer led to the charging of 40 people on terrorist-type offences, making Mr Gilmore the biggest "supergrass" so far. He is believed to be living at a secret address in England with police protection.

Pym in talks

Efforts to repair Anglo-Irish relations badly damaged by the Haughey Government's stand on the Falklands conflict are to be made in the next few days (Our Belfast correspondent writes).

Mr Peter Barry, Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Irish Republic's Government, will have talks with Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, in Brussels next week. Arrangements are being made for a meeting in London early next month between Mr Barry and Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

No date has yet been fixed for formal talks between Dr Garret FitzGerald and Mrs Margaret Thatcher, but it is expected that they will be considered when the two prime ministers get together informally in Bonn in March, during the European summit meeting.

The photograph of Mr Peter Gilmore

Spanish tip leads to silver plate

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

West Midlands Police expects no response from Spain until next week to their request to interview Mr Robert Chatwin, the Midlands jeweller, now in custody at Denia, Costa Blanca.

Yesterday the police recovered a quantity of silver plate and clocks said to be worth several thousand pounds from a warehouse in Coventry which had belonged to Mr Chatwin's shop at Sutton Coldfield. Information about the goods came first from Spain.

Mr Graham Rickard, the former manager of Mr Chatwin's shop at Droitwich, Hereford-Worcester, who opened his own business in Birmingham's Bullring Centre late last year, cleared stock from his windows yesterday. He had items on sale or return basis from Mr Chatwin and was handing them over to the receiver.

Mr Richard Stone, the receiver, has taken out an injunction against Mr Chatwin because money paid into his account at Birmingham's main NatWest branch in December was not as great as the takings from the shops. If money was banked elsewhere the injunction would enable the receiver to ensure it was not removed.

10,000 graduates fail to find jobs

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

More emphasis on the quality of their applications.

Yesterday's report from the Standing Conference of Employers of Graduates said that employers were more reluctant now to say a year in advance what their needs were going to be next September.

It forecast that there would be increased demand this year for graduates for the electronics and computer industries, and a decrease in the construction industry.

Thirteen local education authorities have been chosen by Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education, to develop new courses for non-academic children who do not take public examinations.

The authorities, which will take part in the £2m scheme, are Bedford, Gosport, Croydon, Manchester, Salford, the Inner London Education Authority, Herefordshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Wiltshire, Northamptonshire, Oxford and Somerset.

The courses, aimed at the bottom 40 per cent of the ability range, will involve more practical kinds of teaching and work experience at the same time children would be taught reading, writing and communication skills.

One in eight graduates, 10,000 people, failed to get a job after completing degrees last year, and that figure is likely to rise in 1983 if there is no improvement in the economy.

The forecast, made yesterday by Mr Brian Pitt, director of the Central Services Unit for Careers and Appointments Services, should, however, be seen against the background of his forecast last year that 20 per cent of graduates would be unemployed in 1982 whereas the outcome was 12 per cent.

At a conference yesterday to announce the likely supply and demand of graduates for 1983, Mr David Jowett, chairman of the Standing Conference of Employers of Graduates Ltd, said that more graduates than expected had not jobs last year partly because they had lowered their job expectations.

The graduates are increasingly prepared to take jobs which they have rejected previously, such as clerical offices, posts, fast-food management, male modelling, leisure services and telephone sales.

Students were urged by Miss Pat Pearce, director of careers at the Polytechnic of Central London, to make sure they applied "for jobs early and assiduously, and that they put

Uncertainty over Radio 4

By Kenneth Coaling

Serious musings have been expressed, both inside the BBC and in letters to Miss Monica Sims, the channel controller, over the future of Radio 4 after the publication of the corporation's report, *BBC Radio in the Nineties*.

Programme makers are calling for more questions to be asked, especially from outsiders. And one producer has even predicted the network's systematic destruction. A senior BBC official described that forecast as "neurotic".

A leading producer said yesterday: "In spite of soothing words we may be forgiven for wondering just what Radio 4 will look like in two years' time. What we need to know is whether the plan has been costed and where the money is coming from."

No immediate changes have been indicated for the four networks. In the latest issue of *Radio Times*, Mr Richard Francis, managing director of BBC radio, says that the BBC would be "read" to forsake the richness of output and the depth of analysis available on Radio 4.

The crucial question was reconciling two conflicting interests: one, the attractiveness of a planned set of programmes, as now, taking people into the unexpected and the unfamiliar, as well as the familiar; the other, providing an outlet for the BBC's unparalleled resources to get on the air and react in a flexible way.

He rejected an all-news network in place of or alongside Radio 4. To put it in place of Radio 4 would be sacrilegious, to put it alongside Radio 4 would be to compete for resources and audience and it could leave Radio 4 as a "spiteless being".

Mr Francis says that as long as *The Archers* or any other popular strand is considered a viable element in Radio 4 it would remain there. But if a Radio 3 programme committee sought a popular daily drama serial, Radio 4 had no exclusive claim on that sort of drama.

David Wade, *The Times* radio critic, writes: "But for a timely leak and a public outcry, certain decisions might have been made for the future of radio with no public discussion. One motive for change, must be the attempt to build up audiences. Strengthening channel identity, might passage an attempt to make each less diverse."

Has anyone thought out in detail the content of a national service, the projected Radio 5, intended to sustain a mass of varied local ones. The publication of the BBC document casts a long and doubtful shadow forward.

Telephone tapping likely to breach convention

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A claim by a Surrey antiques dealer that police in Britain violated the European Convention on Human Rights when they tapped his telephone is expected to be upheld by the European Commission of Human Rights after a lengthy investigation.

The commission, which declared in July 1981 that there was a prima facie case to be examined, is now drawing up its report after failing to negotiate a "friendly settlement" between the Government and Mr James Malone, the antiques dealer, of Dorking.

It is expected to find a breach of the convention by the Government and then to refer its findings to the European Court of Human Rights where the case will be examined by seven judges.

Mr Malone unsuccessfully tried to sue the Metropolitan Police in the High Court in 1979 for tapping his telephone. Sir Robert Megarry, the Vice-Chancellor, held that the police had not broken the law.

Mr Malone maintains that from about 1971 he was kept

under police surveillance, his correspondence intercepted and his telephone tapped. In 1977 he was charged with offences concerning dishonest handling of stolen goods and after two trials he was acquitted in 1979.

The prosecution admitted during his first trial that one telephone conversation had been tapped.

Mr Malone alleges a breach of articles 8 and 13 of the European Convention, which deals with an individual's right to privacy in his family, home and correspondence.

Sir Robert ruled that English courts had no power to give effect to the protections laid down in the European Convention, ratified by the United Kingdom in 1951, but said that the Government was obliged to secure those rights and freedoms for its citizens.

Although the convention does not outlaw telephone tapping, Mr Malone's lawyer, Sir Colin Ross-Munro, QC, argued that controls were purely administrative and that there were no adequate safeguards from about 1971 he was kept



Left handed Mr Edward Dignum, aged 69, on Latchmere Road crossing, Battersea. On the other hand, Mrs Doris Eveleigh at Pimlico Road.



Below: Mrs Kath Sissons and, right, Mrs Linda Herrington, her successor.

Lollipop persons up in arms

By Michael Hornsbiell

Lollipop persons were angry yesterday about the plight of a colleague Mrs Kath Sissons aged 39, a mother of two, forced to give up her post in Hammerside because she insisted on holding her lollipop in her left-hand to keep her right hand free to catch errant children. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and the Health and Safety Executive, said it does not matter in which hand the lollipop is held.

Mrs Sissons left her job, which she has held for six years without an accident, after officials of Hammerside County Council told her to conform to the Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974, by holding the sign in her right hand. The Home Office and safety organizations said neither that Act nor the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1974, specifies a lollipop hand. The Metropolitan Police, which controls London's 1,300 lollipop persons, has no preference.

Custard cloud set off blast

By Tony Samstag

An explosion that sent a wall of flame gushing through a food factory in Babbyru, Oxfordshire, injuring nine people, was caused by a cloud of corn starch, one of the basic ingredients in custard powder, the Health and Safety Executive reported yesterday.

The explosion, which happened at the General Foods factory on November 19, 1981, blew out windows and destroyed work on all four sides of the building. Debris was found more than 150yds from the explosion and glass fragments were buried almost 4ft deep in grass verge.

Nine men suffered burns but escaped the scene of the explosion. They were given first-aid treatment at the factory before being taken to hospital. Eight were later treated for burns to hands and face at the special burns unit at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

No member of the public was at risk, the report notes.

Corn starch, like most finely divided organic materials, can burn fiercely if a cloud of sufficient density is ignited. The plant, failure occurred in the dessert processing area of the factory, which employs about 2,000 people in the production, packaging and sale of foods. A control system failed to register a valve malfunction.

As a result, a three-tonne bin of starch, which was already full, continued to be supplied. A cloud of powder was dispersed and ignited by electrical arcing caused by the initial damage to the plant. The report finds the incident of particular interest because the same failure caused both the cloud and the ignition.

The report says that the company has, in accordance with recommendations, since redesigned the custard plant supply system, reviewed safety policy and retrained staff in the dangers of corn starch dust.

Corn starch dust explosion at General Foods Ltd, Babbyru, Oxfordshire, 19 November 1981. (Stationery Office, £3).



MacCabe's promotion because of his espousal of structuralist ideas. Two members of the appointments committee who had voted in his favour, Professor Frank Kernode and Professor Raymond Williams, were subsequently voted off the committee.

Professors make peace in court

By Rupert Morris

Cabe's competence as a teacher.

The suit had arisen out of remarks attributed to Dr Harvey in *The Times*, *The Sunday Telegraph*, and *The Guardian*, which he subsequently denied themselves obliged to settle their differences in the High Court in London.

In the structuralist corner, Professor Colin MacCabe, Professor of English at the University of Strathclyde, was opposed by the emphatically non-structuralist Dr John Harvey, a fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

The peace formula involved Professor MacCabe dropping his slander and libel suit against Dr Harvey in return for an agreed statement in which Dr Harvey "dissociated himself entirely from any imputation concerning Professor MacCabe's promotion because of his espousal of structuralist ideas. Two members of the appointments committee who had voted in his favour, Professor Frank Kernode and Professor Raymond Williams, were subsequently voted off the committee.

The faculty was to turmoil. Dr Williams, a Marxist at odds with many fundamental tenets of structuralism, while Professor Christopher Ricks, who plays Bob Dylan records in his tutorials, was apparently on the side of the traditionalists.

The most puzzling aspect of the whole affair, however, is the philosophy of structuralism. As applied to English literature, it involves rejection of traditional literary criticism in favour of a more scientific analysis of the use of language.

Buskers' rights court move

Two London buskers who have applied for political asylum in Belgium as a protest against alleged police harassment said yesterday that they were considering taking their case to the European Court of Human Rights (Tony Samstag writes).

Mr Michael Kay, who performs as "Bongo Mike", said that he and Mr Jeremy Hinch, his partner, had been advised by their Belgian lawyers that their application for asylum could be rejected because there was no precedent. Even if they were accepted, there was a danger that they would become "stateless" during the five-year waiting period for Belgian nationality and so would be unable to travel easily in other European countries.

A suit against Britain in the European court would enable them, in effect, to bring a civil suit against Britain on the grounds that they were prevented from earning a living. It would also provide a wider public forum for their case.

\$500 award in race bias case

The West Midlands Regional Health Authority is to pay a Malaysian \$500 because he was racially discriminated against by a hospital. (Our Birmingham Correspondent writes).

Mr Yim Choong Chong, aged 32, was rejected by the Sister Debra School of Nursing, Walsall, because, the director of nurse education wrote: "In view of the British labour market it is not my policy to consider anyone who does not hold full United Kingdom citizenship."

Angler's body recovered

An RAF helicopter yesterday recovered the body of Mr Stephen Cope, aged 55, who was swept away by heavy seas while fishing with a friend near Lynton, north Devon. Both men came from Telford, Shropshire.

Mr Cope's friend was trapped for six-and-a-half hours by the incoming tide before he was able to raise the alarm at 1am yesterday.

Miner killed

Mr William Sutherland, aged 49, a miner of Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire, died yesterday, from severe head injuries after part of a conveyor belt collapsed on him at Sherwood colliery, Mansfield.

Driving fees

The Parliament of Sark, the Channel Island where cars are banned, decided yesterday to introduce driving licence fees of £1 a year on horse-drawn carriages and tractors from April.

Why the IPA has asked ACAS to arbitrate in its dispute with Equity about Channel Four and TV-am.

severe cost pressures on so many fronts, recognise the justice of the IPA case. There are consequently few commercials on Channel Four.

What are the consequences of the dispute?

Both TV-am and Channel Four are threatened by the loss in advertising revenue. Equity members are themselves losing opportunities for substantial additional earnings from commercials. Few of those commercials appearing on Channel Four do so on the basis demanded by Equity.

Since March 1982 the IPA has tried extensively in direct negotiation with Equity to explain these facts.

The IPA has made many conciliatory and generous interim offers to Equity because it wishes both Channel Four and TV-am to succeed. All of these offers have been rejected.

How to solve the dispute

The IPA does not now believe it can be solved by direct negotiation.

We believe the only chance of a fast and fair solution to this problem is to ask ACAS to examine the case and undertake arbitration binding on both sides.

The IPA is willing to be bound by an ACAS decision as to both the most appropriate method of paying TV performers and the scale of payment on Channel Four and TV-am. Will Equity do the same?

ipd
Institute of Practitioners in Advertising.
44 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QS. Tel: 01-235 7020.

How actors are paid on ITV

Actors who appear in television commercials get paid first of all a 'studio' fee in return for their time and their skills when a commercial is being 'shot'. This fee is freely negotiated subject to a minimum.

Then, after the commercial has been screened, they are paid additional 'repeat' fees dependent upon two factors: the number of times a commercial is repeated; and the size of the potential audience of the ITV station on which it appears (eg. repeat fees for London are much more than those for Anglia or Border). These factors are applied to the negotiated 'studio' fee.

The basic Agreement setting these guidelines for ITV was originally drawn up in 1955 by the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising, representing advertisers and agencies, and Equity, representing actors and actresses. It was last updated in 1981. This Agreement is not in dispute.

What the dispute is really about

The dispute is not with performers but with their union Equity. Nor is it about 'studio' fees for the new services which for TV-am and Channel Four can be the same as for ITV. It is over what 'repeat' fees are fair to artists and advertisers for the two new channels.

The average advertisement on Channel Four is seen in about 500,000 homes and it is expected that on TV-am it will on average be seen by rather fewer. By contrast, on ITV an average 'spot' is seen in 4 million homes.

The Equity argument is that for these two smaller channels artists should receive the same repeat fees as for an ITV audience of four times the size.

This is why advertisers, who are under



Fiat pins hopes on Uno

The Uno (above), one of the most significant new cars of recent years, is launched by Fiat today (Clifford Webb writes). The Italian group, which like BL is in the middle of a big recovery programme, hopes that the Uno will do in the 1980s what its predecessor, the Fiat 127, did in the 1970s as Europe's best-selling "supermini".

The Uno derives its name from its classification in the one-litre sector of the market, although it comes in seven versions with three engines (900cc, 1100cc and 1300cc), three and five-door bodies and two standards of equipment.

The project has cost Fiat £437m, although that includes £28m for plant and work where the Rimo (Strada) is assembled. It hopes to build 450,000 a year, so increasing its European market share to 20 per cent.

At a fraction under 12ft long, the Uno is nine inches longer than the Metro. It goes on sale in Britain in about four months. Prices will not be announced until then.

Six per cent inflation forecast by Howe

THE ECONOMY

The December figure for inflation was expected to be below 6 per cent. Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said when speaking in a debate in the Commons on the economic situation.

The recent fall in the value of sterling would have some effect on inflation, but not as much as many appeared to think, he said. The determination of the Government to bring down inflation was undiminished.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said that a realistic exchange rate was a pre-condition for economic recovery. The Government would reintroduce exchange controls.

Mr Shore opened the debate by moving "That this House, recognizing that a competitive exchange rate is essential for British recovery, condemns the gross mismanagement by the Government of its economic policies, particularly its exchange rate and interest rate policies, which have contributed to the collapse of Britain's industry and to the massive increase in unemployment; and calls upon the Government, as part of a new strategy to get the country back to work, to reverse the recent increase in interest rates and to reduce Britain's vulnerability to speculation by the immediate reimposition of exchange controls."

He said that while fevered in the money markets, the Chancellor had spent the Christmas recess in trappist silence and there had been no sign of life from the Treasury but for a drip of daily briefing. "Don't blame us, we are only the Government. Blame the Opposition instead."

The Prime Minister had then returned and dispatched the Chancellor to the microphone, and had given a long interview on Sunday on television in which the word "unemployment" had only once passed her lips, when she said that provided wage increases were below the current inflation level, they need not have more unemployment, thus, that if living standards were cut, unemployment would not increase.

All over Britain the scourge of unemployment had returned. The Prime Minister had given no hint of recognition of the moral and social outrage involved.

Having refused to acknowledge, let alone admit, the disasters that the policies had inflicted on the British economy and people, the Chancellor and the Prime Minister had doggedly resisted any change in exchange rate, however necessary they had known it to be.

I do not apologize (said) for concentrating on the exchange rate. A realistic exchange rate is not a sovereign cure for all our ills, but it is a necessary part of recovery. We all know why. An overvalued exchange rate is a tax on Britain's exports and a subsidy to foreign importers. It is a self-inflicted wound and one which we are no longer strong enough to bear.

Was the Chancellor aware that after pushing up the pound by 19 per cent in his first period of office, in the two years since January 1981 it had depreciated by just over 22 per cent? Has he been, in Mrs Thatcher's words last Sunday,

totally irresponsible or simply incompetent? If the Chancellor still thought the 12 to 13 per cent depreciation of the last two months was harmful, was it his purpose to regain the 3 per cent, and if so, how did he intend to do it? If he believed the exchange rate movement was beneficial, did he not consider that the attacks that the Prime Minister, his colleagues and himself had launched upon the City on this occasion, and the Labour Party, as just so much electoral humbug (Labour cheer).

Was it his intention to maintain his publicly stated stance of leaving the exchange rate to be determined by the market, or did he intend to respond to the next flood by pushing up interest rates yet again?

Since there was no reason to believe that Britain's productivity was rising or would rise faster than that of its competitors, what was his policy for restoring the still substantial loss in Britain's international competitiveness? Was it the battle-cry of a suit-and-rickdo course of an attempt to enforce not pay moderation, but containing real cuts in wages, salaries and standards of living of his fellow countrymen?

Was the light of evidence that it was a gross error to abolish all controls on the movement of capital and domestic savings out of Britain. The exodus of capital had been running at the rate of £200m a year since 1980. Was the Chancellor not ashamed (he said) that the total capital investment in the manufacturing industry of his own country is less than the flow of British money overseas?

We believe (he said) that the central objective of economic policy is to create wealth and expand the rate of growth and to reduce unemployment. These objectives could only be achieved by policies for expanding demand and for achieving competitiveness, together with far-reaching changes in the industrial structure to restore the shattered supply side of the British economy.

Labour not only believed that the exchange rate adjustment was in the best interests of the country, but would be of benefit to Britain. It was perverse and wrong to try to prop up an uncompetitive rate.

It was Labour's intention that interest rates and exchange rates should serve the interests of British industry and people, and not be determined by theories on the paramount importance of money supply.

Labour would reintroduce exchange control and see to it that savings of the British people were used to strengthen the economy of the country from whose prosperity it would benefit. (Labour cheer)

Sir Geoffrey Howe moved an amendment to make the motion read: "That this House notes that Government spending and borrowing policies have led to a massive increase in inflation in the United Kingdom, and that the Government has failed to bring down inflation by means of monetary discipline."

Progress had been in recent months faster than was forecast and might, in consequence be rather slower in months ahead. But Britain would continue to experience the benefits of sound financial policies, improving efficiency and more common sense in wages and productivity.

Productivity was up by some 13-14 per cent since the end of 1980 and was rising faster than in partner countries. Unit labour costs were rising by only about 9 per cent a year, which was a solid cost advantage. Exports had held up better than

disassociate himself from the natural implications of that proposition. It was clear he was prescribing devaluation of the pound sterling by 30 per cent. If he was serious on that, then there was a serious accompanying question about what he wished to have for wages alongside such a change.

Interest rates stood some 5 per cent lower than at autumn 1981 and undoubtedly lower than they would have been if the Government had not been pursuing a consistent policy of holding down its own spending and borrowing programme, and stood passively lower than if Mr Shore ever had the chance to introduce his foolish policies.

Mr Deals Healey Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Leeds East, Lab): Real interest rates in relation to inflation are higher than they were in 1981.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said real interest rates were high and had been high in the recent years around the world, because of high uncertainty that still persisted in the pace at which the world was making progress against inflation.

Government spending and borrowing were under control and on target and would remain so. Public spending plans for 1983-84 put the rate of increase at 2.5 per cent, showing a reduction in public spending in cost terms and as a proportion of GDP compared with plans for the current year. Spending in the current year was likely to be below the planned figures.

The autumn statement indicated that the PSBR this year was likely to be some half a billion pounds below the red book estimate of £2.9 billion. Present indications were that reductions on the red book estimate might be rather greater than that. Government deficit as a percentage of GDP was and would continue to be one of the lowest in industrialized countries. Monetary policy was on course.

Fiscal and monetary discipline was bringing results. During the last year inflation had been falling, nowhere faster than in the UK. At the Budget, he suggested Britain should have a target of 6 per cent at the end of 1982. At the time of the autumn statement he spoke of 6 1/2 per cent.

Now it was plain that both those forecasts erred on the side of caution because he suspected that the December figure would prove to be below 6 per cent and would be 10 per cent at the end of 1982.

The recent fall in sterling would have some effect on future inflation levels, but not nearly as much as some appeared to think or the Opposition appeared to hope. The determination of the Government to bring down inflation was undiminished.

Progress had been in recent months faster than was forecast and might, in consequence be rather slower in months ahead. But Britain would continue to experience the benefits of sound financial policies, improving efficiency and more common sense in wages and productivity.

Productivity was up by some 13-14 per cent since the end of 1980 and was rising faster than in partner countries. Unit labour costs were rising by only about 9 per cent a year, which was a solid cost advantage. Exports had held up better than

many people expected and Britain would continue to run a substantial current account surplus another new area in which the autumn statement was proving to be over-cautious.

so long as the nation maintained a sensible approach to pay bargaining - and settlements needed to go down still further - it could hope to maintain its share of the world market which would expand again in 1983 after falling in 1982. It took time for all the results of sound policies to come through (Labour laughter)

There was a short cut route identifiable in any country in the world consistent with sound policies for reducing the current tragically high unemployment figures, the Government would have been the first to take it, but experience demonstrates there was not.

It was only by pursuing sound policies that Britain could hope to reverse the upward trend in unemployment which had lasted so long in Britain and was manifest throughout the industrialized world. It was only by contributing to world peace and stability that Britain could pay its own way in the world, and containing the battle against inflation that there could be a sustainable prospect of higher employment.

The November industrial production figures were disappointing but the autumn statement forecast some fall in the second half of 1982. In 1983 the prospect was one of modest recovery in world industrial activity and some improvement in United Kingdom manufacturing output.

There had been uncertainty about world oil prices and the possible future policies of Opec, and such a doubt about its resolve to maintain a policy of fixed exchange rates, but a return to such a regime was impractical.

Everyone wanted to see a return to greater currency stability and that was an agreed objective, but the way to such stability was to work towards a lower and more stable rate of inflation. There was no substitute for that.

The disturbance in markets around the turn of the year did owe something to fears, however unjustified, that the Opposition may be conceivably be called upon by the Government to put their inflationary policies into effect.

The Government had shown there was no question of any lack of resolve. There could now be no doubt about its resolve to maintain economic and monetary policies consistent with effective policies against inflation and with maintenance of sound money. There was no reason for a further rise in interest rates. If the exchange rate fell further, it could be only temporary, and those tempted to speculate on that could come to regret their action.

Underlying inflation rate prospect was still good. It had been suggested that a depreciation of the kind which had taken place might, if

condemning a report before there can conceivably be time to study it, seems to be verging on the silly.

Motorway cones not used unnecessarily

Motorway repairs take no longer in Britain than in other countries and cones are never put on roads unnecessarily. Mrs Lynne Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said.

Mr David Knox (Leek, C) who asked whether the Secretary of State was satisfied with the speed with which motorway repairs were undertaken.

Mrs Chalker replied: In general, yes, but we are always trying to do better. Mr Knox: Why do so many of British motorways seem to be under repair and why do they take so much longer than in other countries?

Mrs Chalker: I can assure him we do not take longer than other countries to effect repairs. We are victims of our own success as 20 year-old, and more, roadways have taken even more traffic than that for which they were planned.

it persisted, add two or three per cent to the retail price index after a year or 18 months. But this was much too pessimistic a view.

A fall in the exchange rate would only have a lasting effect on inflation if it resulted from unsound money. The case if the policies of Mr Shore were put into practice. Policies for sound money would ensure no lasting effect.

Mr Shore had the gall to offer lower interest rates. Mr Shore's was a reckless programme of extravagance.

There could be no question of exchange controls being reintroduced. The Opposition should realize such controls were not the answer. None of the easy answers put forward by the Opposition, such as a spending spree with borrowed money, would provide the answer, and the good sense of the British people would see through such ideas.

He did not know how, consistently with all the natural economic consequences of Labour's proposals, Mr Shore had the gall to offer lower interest rates. Mr Shore's was a reckless programme of extravagance.

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Privileges committee to study Livingstone's words

PRIVILEGE

By 203 votes in 162 majority 41, the Commons decided to refer to its Committee of Privileges words spoken by Mr Koo Livingstone, Leader of the Greater London Council and Mr John McDowell, chairman of its Finance and General Purposes Committee, indicating an intention to restrict the provision of new services in the constituencies of any London MP who failed to support the provisions of a forthcoming Greater London Council Money Bill.

The issue had been raised by Mr Ronald Brown (Hemel Hempstead, South and Shoreham, SDP).

Before it was debated the Speaker (Mr George Thomas) read a letter he had received from Mr Livingstone. It said:

Dear Mr Speaker, I understand from the media that some members of Parliament have raised an issue of privilege. I am enclosing a copy of the minutes of the GLC's policy committee, which met on January 12, 1983 and decided (Agenda item 12) capital allocation 1983-84 "that lists prepared of projects which are at risk in each constituency and that these be provided to MPs who would be asked if they were willing to support increased capital allocation for the GLC. It would also be made clear that decisions on which projects would proceed would not be based on how MPs voted but on the needs of London."

You may also have seen an unusually accurate article in the Evening Standard which says "Livingstone now claims that people got the wrong idea over remarks made by councillors. He said: 'Of course the GLC will continue to need to do otherwise would be to penalize the working people of London.'"

I hope this letter will resolve an otherwise confused situation. I also hope that you will not mind my having given copies of this letter to the media as I am sure you will understand that there has been considerable media interest in the response in the House raised in our House this afternoon.

Yours sincerely, Ken Livingstone.

Mr Ronald Brown moving that the matter be referred to the committee. He said he had acted because it was in the interests of Parliament. It was not right and proper that anybody should put pressure on an MP that, unless the took a certain course of action, something would happen to him.

They are not in a position (he continued) to offer any MP money to vote in favour of something. Both bribery and blackmail would be wrong to put pressure on an MP. I felt that if the committee could look at this case and examine it one would feel, at any rate, that we could safeguard MPs from pressure.

Mr Livingstone's letter had spoken about projects being based not on how MPs voted but "on the needs of London."

He could (Mr Brown continued) not be sure that the committee would be of most relevance in achieving economic recovery.

It was inevitable that this approach meant making hard choices and difficult adjustments. It was the task of a responsible Government to grasp these realities. As for the "erosion of opportunities" which Lord Glenamara alleged had taken place, in almost every area the proportion of the total age group participating in education was higher than it was under the previous administration; the percentage of three and four

year-olds in nursery and primary schools had risen by about 3 per cent since 1978-79; and the percentage of 16 and 17 year-olds staying on at school after the minimum leaving age was also rising.

The age participation rate for 19-20 year-olds in higher education last year was over 13 per cent - the highest for several years - in spite of the fact that the size of the age group was growing.

In the current year the Government would be spending more than £14,000m on education - more than on national defence. This had been sufficient to ensure a record level of spending per pupil in the schools. In England alone the Government had spent more than £7,000m on the

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the comment of Mr John McDowell: "Support us and we will implement this in your area, and your refusal to support our programme will mean this will not go ahead."

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Statement on Serpell tomorrow

TRANSPORT

Full details of the Serpell report on British Rail finance and all supporting documents will be published tomorrow (Thursday) Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said during questions in the Commons today.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lynton, C) asked: "Would he not agree that for the British Rail board to discuss and apparently reject the contents of a report not yet seen is thoroughly unsatisfactory. The Secretary of State has told us that speculation has been wild and deplorable. The reason for that is because we have not seen the report and we have had to rely on rumour. Can we look forward in future to changes in procedure?"

Mr Howell: I wholly agree that the wild speculation has been deplorable, very selective and grossly distorted in many cases. As soon as the manuscript of the report was received by me, I informed the House and authorized publication, together with a mass of supporting documents.

Publication had not been possible before, given the enormous number of documents. A manuscript copy of the report was sent to the chairman of the British Rail Board on a confidential basis as soon as I received it. I thought that right because it concerned British Rail in its operation. This is the only manuscript copy of the report sent outside the Government.

Mr Ronald Lewis (Carlisle, Lab): Is he aware of the wide opposition to all sections of the community to the contents of the Serpell report so far leaked and especially reports of the wholesale and almost complete closure of British Rail?



Who's the boss, you or your phone system?

The time you spend on your office phone is your business. The time you spend just trying to get through is ours. That's where you're at the mercy of your office telephone system.

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Tensions in Central America

US to hold manoeuvres in Honduras next month

From Our Correspondent Washington

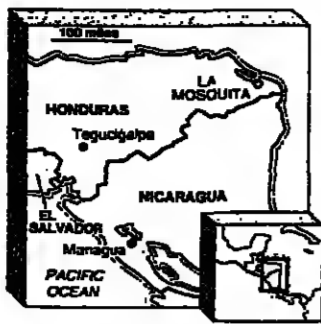
The United States and Honduras will hold a large-scale joint military exercise in Honduras next month designed to improve the Central American country's defences, the Pentagon announced yesterday.

The six-day manoeuvres, in which about 1,600 American and 4,000 Honduran troops will take part, will begin on February 1 in a sensitive area of eastern Honduras, near the border with Nicaragua.

The troops are under strict orders to stay at least 10 miles from the border area. No US ground combat troops will be directly involved. About 900 US support personnel will be on Honduras soil.

The Reagan Administration has denied Nicaraguan charges that the US is supporting covert operations to overthrow the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua, which Washington has alleged is a subversive threat to Honduras.

The US Government has also accused the Sandinista regime of Nicaragua, which is backed by Cuba and the Soviet Union, of aiding the left-wing guerrillas in



El Salvador, a friendly neighbour of Honduras.

Honduras, which is also fighting a left-wing guerrilla insurgency, has invited Nicaragua to send a military representative to observe the exercise in a move evidently designed to allay any fears that the manoeuvres are a covert operation against the Sandinista regime.

Code-named "Ahuas Tara" ("Big Pine" in the Miskito Indian language), the exercise is aimed at teaching mobility, forward air control and communications assistance to Honduran forces.

Last year about 80 American

troops joined 1,000 Honduran forces in a two-week command, control and transport exercise.

The Pentagon also announced that about 6,000 troops would join members of the Panamanian national guard for joint exercises along the Panama Canal between February 11 and 17.

The Panamanian exercises are aimed at strengthening the Panama Canal Treaties. These give the US the main responsibility for the canal's defence until it is handed over to Panama at the end of the century.

TEGUIGALPA: Honduras said that observers from Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama had been invited to the exercise (Reuters reports).

MANAGUA: Eighteen Nicaraguan soldiers and 24 right-wing guerrillas were killed in clashes near the Honduran border in the last week, the Defence Ministry said.

It said the guerrillas came from Honduran territory and the clashes occurred in the Nicaraguan provinces of Jinotega and Zelaya.

The many faces of El Salvador

San Salvador (NYT) - Mr Stephen Solarz, a Democratic Congressman from New York, sat in a cell at the Mariona prison and asked five of the political prisoners there to describe the torture inflicted upon them.

Señor Antonio Carrías, a secondary school teacher who said he was not sure why he was in prison, said he had received chemical burns, and pulled off his shirt to show a three-inch scar that began in the middle of his chest and made a rutted path across his back.

Mr Solarz visited San Salvador this month, with several other members of Congress, to find out what is happening in this land that received \$279m (£174m) in military and economic assistance from the United States last year.

The Reagan Administration must certify this month that El Salvador is making progress in human rights and economic and political improvements for the military part of the aid to continue. By the end of the month, some 16 delegations,

including congressmen, doctors, lawyers and academics, will visit the capital.

After three days of being shuttled around in armoured vehicles to talk with business and political leaders, as well as prisoners and farmers, Mr Solarz said: "It is very hard to grasp what the reality of this place is. El Salvador is like a Kabuki play - all of the actors are wearing masks. When you talk to some of the heads of the security forces that have been responsible for killing civilians they sound like leaders of Amnesty International."

By the end of his visit Mr Solarz still believed, as he had when he arrived, that the war would end only through negotiations. But he also had begun to understand that such a clear-cut proposal has its problems in a country as complicated as El Salvador.

"I hadn't fully appreciated how power in El Salvador is fragmented," he said. The Government pretends very tentatively over the country. The right here holds power that is

disproportionate to their numbers."

In his 72 hours in San Salvador, Mr Solarz asked those he met whether they thought it a good idea for the United States to refuse military aid unless the Salvadorean Government ends the killing of civilians and agrees to unconditional talks with the leftist opposition.

"We believe that any aid should be very well conditioned," Señor Jorge Camacho, the president of a local union, said.

Base attacked: About 500 left-wing guerrillas attacked a military base in the central Salvadorean province of San Vicente on Tuesday with mortars and automatic weapons.

Washington: Senator Ruben Zamora, a Salvadorean rebel leader, disputing an expected State Department announcement tomorrow that the human rights situation in El Salvador was improving, said that the Administration was lying and "most members of Congress know it". (AP reports).

Pravda gibe at 'nuclear truncheon'

Moscow (Reuters) - Pravda made a fierce attack on the United States yesterday alleging that right-wing politicians intended to use nuclear weapons to dictate their will in both Eastern and Western Europe. It also denounced Washington over its attitude towards détente and its stance in nuclear arms talks in Geneva.

The newspaper said that hawks across the Atlantic intended to wield "a big nuclear truncheon" so that, threatening to swing it at any moment, they can attempt to dictate their will both in Eastern and Western Europe.

Western diplomats said the attack was clearly intended to bolster the anti-nuclear movement in Europe, and that by linking its own fate with that of West European countries the Kremlin hoped to isolate the United States from its Nato allies.

Pravda published two separate articles, both of which also appeared to indicate that the Kremlin was stepping up its efforts to put pressure on Western governments to accept a Soviet proposal to nuclear truncheon to French nuclear weapons in United States-Soviet arms negotiations.

The party organ added that Washington had rejected détente and was now trying to impose its views on its Nato allies. "Official Washington is out to mobilize its allies so as to destroy by joint efforts the material foundation of the policy of détente," it said.

The newspaper said that one United States aim was to cut down on trade and economic cooperation between the nations of Europe. "The intention is to undermine détente where it has struck the deepest roots and achieved most signal successes."

They intend turning the cradle of détente, including military détente, which originated on the European continent, into nuclear missile powder keg and firing missile."

BONN: Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, ended his visit to West Germany yesterday with a further round of talks with political leaders before flying directly to East Berlin to start another official visit (Michael Binyon writes).

In the morning he met Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the Social Democratic leader, and discussed with him the issue that has dominated his three-day visit here - disarmament and the Geneva medium-range missile talks.

He also held another round of talks with Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister. Foxy Gromyko, page 10

Ex-minister accused of role in deporting Jews

From Diana Geddes, Paris

M Maurice Papon, aged 72, a former minister under President Giscard d'Estaing and former chief of police in Paris, was charged yesterday with "crimes against humanity" for his alleged involvement 40 years ago in the arrest and deportation of 1,690 French Jews to extermination camps in Germany.

The allegations date back to May 1981, just before the presidential election, when Le Canard Enchaîné, the French satirical weekly, published documents, allegedly signed by M Papon as secretary-general at the Gironde Prefecture between 1942 and 1944, in which he asked the local police to provide him with the officers required to deport Jews from a camp near Bordeaux.

M Papon is also accused of having asked Vichy Government police officials in August 1942, if he should carry out German instructions to deport Jewish children living with French families in Bordeaux, whose parents had already been sent to Germany, and having received an affirmative answer of having done nothing to help save the children from their subsequent deportation to Auschwitz.

Shocked by the Canard Enchaîné's accusation that he had played a part in carrying out the anti-semitic policies of the occupying Nazi forces and the Vichy Government, M Papon, who was Budget Minister between 1978 and 1981, said that his accusers were acting from political motivation.

He had never sought to hide his actions during the occupation, he said, having been advised to remain in his post by the Resistance leaders. During the whole of this period my behaviour was always in accordance with that of a member of the anti-German resistance," he insisted.

He called for the establishment of an "honorary jury" consisting of former members of the Resistance, to give their "verdict" on the affair. After a lengthy inquiry, the "jury" decided that M Papon had "carried out acts that were seemingly contrary to the jury's conception of what would have been honourable", and suggested that he should have resigned from his post in July, 1942.

M Papon: Denies the charges.

Beagle Channel incident upsets Brazil

From Patrick Knight São Paulo

The Brazilian Government has asked Argentina for an explanation of an incident involving a vessel of Brazil's first expedition to the Antarctic, the Barão de Teff, which was intercepted on Tuesday by an Argentine patrol boat as it tried to enter the disputed Beagle Channel.

The Argentines attempted to put a pilot on board the Barão de Teff as it was on its way to the Chilean port of Punta Arenas, to take on provisions and refuel before returning to Antarctic waters. The Barão de Teff turned back, rather than take the pilot and took a longer route to Punta Arenas.

The Brazilians say that naval vessels do not need pilots, and in any case sovereignty over the disputed area still has to be decided. The Beagle dispute is now under the jurisdiction of the Vatican after Argentina refused to accept the British crown judgment in Chile's favour several years ago.

Beatings 'ordered' by Eitan

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - General Rafael Eitan, the Israeli Army chief of staff, ordered soldiers to harass the Palestinian population on the occupied West Bank and use strong-arm tactics to crush violent unrest there last spring, according to documents presented to a court martial yesterday.

Seven soldiers, including the former deputy military governor of Hebron, are on trial accused of brutally mistreating local residents. The documents were presented by a defence lawyer, Mr Yehuda Ressler. He said they contained a record of two discussions held by General Eitan and his senior officers on how to stamp out an unprecedented spate of anti-Israeli demonstrations last March and April.

The violence erupted after the Israelis dismissed several West Bank mayors in a crackdown on supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Captain Akiva Saranovitch, operations officer in Hebron at the time of the unrest, testified that the documents were circulated among Israeli officers and represented a clear policy statement on how to behave towards local residents.

"The documents contain the phrases 'harass the population' and 'enforce tough punishment', the lawyer said. The rest of their contents were not made public.

The court also heard evidence from Major Baruch Nagar, who was convicted last April of assaulting a Palestinian. He received a two-month suspended sentence, but was allowed to remain in his post.

Yesterday he described how soldiers beat up Palestinian detainees from the Hebron Islamic college last March. He said he intervened to stop the beatings.

The trial continues.

The Polish economic crisis

Nuggets of success amid deep gloom

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Like prospectors panning for gold, Polish ministers have proudly presented small nuggets of success in an otherwise bleak economic terrain.

Coal production in 1982 - once the measuring stick of the economy - has increased by almost 26 million tonnes, to reach 190 million tonnes, and coal exports to the West have almost doubled.

Sugar production from the 1982 beet crop is heading for a record, raising hopes that some can be exported and Poland has just recorded its first trade surplus - \$400m (about £250m) - for many years.

That is the end of the good news. The rest of the story has been presented in particularly grim terms by Mr Stanislaw Nieckarz, the Finance Minister.

Mr Nieckarz made clear that Poland will be able to repay only \$2,000m to Western creditors and that its trade surplus was more due to a 23 per cent drop in imports - largely because of the block in Western credits - than any export-led recovery.

He said revenues from exports to the West were expected to reach \$5,600m this year which was "not enough to secure basic imports and pay the debts".

Mr Nieckarz said that of Poland's total output, only 12 per cent was going towards export and this included exports not earning dollars. Two principal imports, oil and grain, posed problems. Poland imports much of its oil from the Soviet Union and prices will increase this year though they would still remain under the Opec level.

The state bought only 2.7 million tonnes of grain from the country's mainly private farmers last year, so Poland would have to import more for domestic consumption and for fodder. Talks were under way with two suppliers, Austria and France, and Warsaw was waiting for a response from Canada to renew a three-year agreement.

Because of the general Western reluctance to grant Poland credits, the Government had to pay cash for grain from the West in the first quarter of this year and was negotiating cash

deals with Hungary, Romania and the Soviet Union.

The tone of these ministerial utterances is to lower the expectations of the Polish people, to damp down any hopes of wage increases or Solidarity-type concessions.

Some prices will go up in the first half of the year, but food prices will stay stable at least until the summer. Rationing of food and other goods will remain to stop panic buying.

Apart from debts and imports from the West, Poland's main concerns remain those of supplying enough food for the population, controlling inflation (that is, too many zlotys chasing too few goods) and the related problem of labour productivity (workers are not increasing production sufficiently because money has lost its value as an incentive).

These factors must have weighed heavily on the minds of the Western banking delegation which recently held a round of talks in Warsaw to discuss the rescheduling prospects for Poland's commercial debts to the West.

Total capital and interest repayments due in 1983 are estimated to be between \$8,000m and \$10,000m and the total debt to Western banks and governments is, according to Mr Nieckarz, about \$25,000m.

Other vital statistics include: An overall decline of 2 per cent in 1982 compared with 1981 in industrial production, despite some improvement in the autumn. Production is still 16 per cent below 1979 levels.

Incomes increased last year by 62 per cent, largely to compensate for radical price increases. This increase was not matched by an increase in goods on the shelves. Hence the drastic drop in the spending power of the zloty.

Sales of potatoes, an important staple to the state, fell in 1982 by 96.8 per cent to 2.3 million tonnes. Fodder production also fell.

The number of those employed in the state sector of the economy fell last year by 378,000.

Labour productivity was up 4 per cent on 1981; but 10 per cent down on 1979.



Medals returned: The children of the legendary American Olympic athlete, Jim Thorpe, receiving the medals won by their father in 1912 and taken from him because he had played semi-professional baseball. They were returned at a ceremony in Los Angeles by Señor Juan Antoni Samaranch (centre), president of the International Olympic Committee.

Beatings 'ordered' by Eitan

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Syrian 'right' to new missiles

Damascus (Reuters) - Syria made its first official comment yesterday on reports that it had acquired long-range Soviet anti-aircraft missiles, declaring that it was the natural right of a state under threat to possess defensive weapons.

The comment, broadcast by the state-run Damascus radio did not say whether Syria had taken delivery of SA5 missiles from the Soviet Union.

The missiles have a range of 190 miles and from Syria would be able to hit aircraft over much of Israel. American officials announced earlier this week that SA5s were being deployed at two sites in Syria and would have most Israeli air space in their range.

The Soviet Union rejected United States complaints about the deployment of SA5 missiles in Syria (Reuters reports).

Responding to comments by the State Department spokesman, Mr Javerin said Washington wanted only to ensure that Israel had complete military supremacy in the region.

JERUSALEM: On the eve of the second of substantive negotiations between Israel and Lebanon, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, said yesterday that Israel would be insisting that its soldiers run three, new early-warning stations in southern Lebanon as part of any troop withdrawal agreement (Christopher Walker writes).

The minister's statement followed reports that Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's chief Middle East envoy, had earlier this week presented a compromise proposal thought acceptable to the Lebanese that the stations be manned by Americans.

In an interview with Israeli radio, Mr Shamir said that Israel was pressing for full cooperation between the Israeli and Lebanese Armies in manning the stations, which were part of the new security arrangements Israel was seeking as an integral part of any final agreement at the talks.

The minister said that Israel had not put forward the idea of

manning the stations in order to withdraw it. He could see no reason for Lebanese objections based on claims of Lebanese sovereignty since the arrangement was designed to be temporary, and the subject of negotiation and the ability of the Lebanese Government to exercise full control over its territory.

NEW YORK: The United Nations Security Council has renewed for another six months the mandate of the peace-keeping forces (Unifil) stationed in southern Lebanon, although they are merely in a token island of Lebanese sovereignty surrounded and controlled by the Israeli occupying army (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

But if the Lebanese Government has its way Unifil will be given a new lease of life and become an important part of efforts aimed at the restoration of self-rule to a state, which is now at the mercy of the Israeli and Syrian armies and remaining PLO guerrilla forces.



Marchais sues over rape report

Paris - M Georges Marchais, Secretary General of the French Communist Party, (above) is suing for libel a right-wing police federation which accused his 13-year-old son, Olivier, of taking part in a gang rape of two girls last November. He wants Fr200,000 (nearly £20,000) damages (Diana Geddes writes).

A report of the alleged rape "involving the son of a well-known Communist official" appeared in the weekly paper *Minute* on December 11, it was said in court. Readers ringing a telephone number at the end of the article were told that M Marchais's son was one of the gang. The number was that of the head of the accused police body.

Moscow (AFP) - The Soviet Union, using a single rocket, successfully launched eight more earth satellites in the Cosmos series Nos 1,429 to 1,436. Orbiting at between 950 and 900 miles, they are carrying scientific equipment for space studies.

The core of the nuclear reactor on Cosmos 1,402 and other remnants of that fragmented satellite will re-enter the atmosphere in mid-February with acceptable radioactivity, if any, it has been announced here.

Anti-runway man sentenced

Frankfurt (Reuters) - Alexander Schubart, a leading opponent of Frankfurt's third airport, was given a suspended two-year jail sentence for trying to put the West German Government under duress through his call for demonstrations against its construction.

His lawyers promised to appeal against the verdict and his supporters called for mass demonstrations last night in the city centre.

Caution for Medvedev

Moscow - Dr Roy Medvedev, soviet historian, told Western reporters in his Moscow flat yesterday that he had been summoned to the Moscow procurator's office and warned to cease anti-government activities or face arrest.

In his view, the warning to him was part of a new crackdown on dissent. He had been shown a document which described his writing as hostile lampoons slandering the Soviet Government and contrary to the interests of the state and social system.

Nosebleed holds up heart man

New York - Doctors reported an immediate improvement in the condition of Mr Barney Clark, the first recipient of a permanent artificial heart, after a minor operation on Tuesday to stop a "gushing" nosebleed. His release from hospital has been delayed, however.

"There is no question that this is going to delay his recovery," a spokesman for Houston Medical Centre in Salt Lake City said.

Topless slip-up

Washington (AP) - The US Air Force has disciplined several officers, some of them fighter pilots now on staff duty, for hiring a topless dancer to perform at a pre-Christmas party in the Pentagon basement. This was a violation of Air Force policy barring "practices that are not in good taste" a spokesman said.

Melbourne, (Reuters) - People tried to drag the survivors of a herd of 90 whales stranded on a beach 1,800 miles east of here back into the sea. Other rescuers doused them with buckets of water but half the herd were dead.

Lockheed killer

Norristown (Reuters) - Roger Bucher, aged 25, a vagrant, was convicted of murdering Mr Courland Gross, former Lockheed Aircraft Corporation chairman, his wife and their housekeeper at their estate in Philadelphia on July 15.

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Hungary dry

Budapest (AFP) - Only soft drinks will be served from now on at Hungarian official functions. Mr Istvan Hecsey, Finance Minister has decided. In other economy measures no more than one official reception will be held for visiting foreign dignitaries, and gifts to foreigners must not exceed 500 forints (about £10).

Tasmanian dam, 2: The heritage

Where devils and tigers may no longer roam

the south-west wilderness, more than 6,000 square miles of temperate rain-forest and associated transitional habitats, defined by scientists as the largest such wilderness area in Australia and among the three largest in the world.

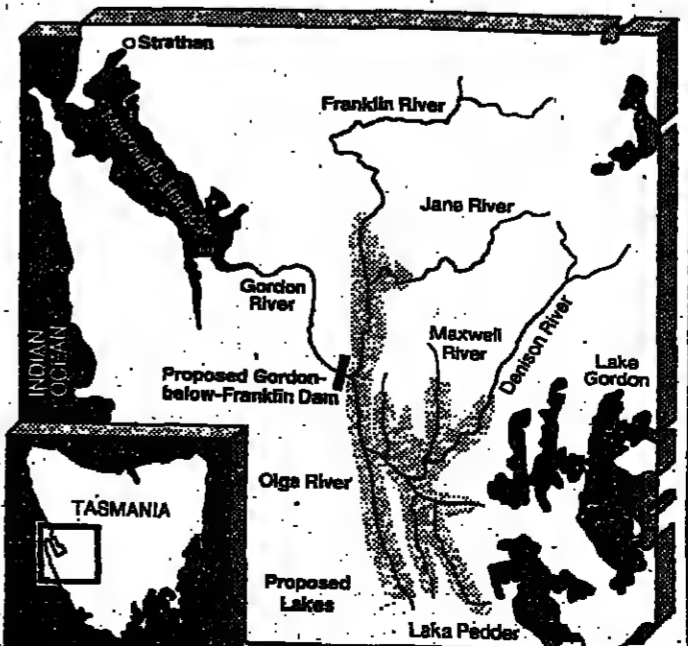
The region was last month designated a World Heritage site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris, reinforcing the view of the Tasmanian National Parks and Wildlife Service, in a paper delivered to the World National Parks Congress in Bali last October, that "this wilderness area is now at a turning point. Further resource development and compromise land-use decisions will completely destroy its nature conservation value."

Of 165 plant species endemic to Tasmania found in the south-west, 29 occur only in the south-west and some are rare and endangered. Two of 21 species of mammals recorded there are considered rare and en-

dangered; it is one of the last habitats for the Tasmanian devil, which is extinct on the mainland, and may be one of very few possible strongholds for the Tasmanian tiger.

The orange-bellied parrot, one of the rarest in the world, breeds only in the south-west; the native ground parrot is also endangered.

A recent study of a small sector of the wilderness area found more than 1,000 terrestrial invertebrate species new to science. The study also found that in recent years (a growth industry in recent years) will also mourn the loss of some of the most spectacular mountain and river scenery in the world. "With the second-highest rainfall in Australia (up to 3,600mm annual average) the south-west has some impressive river systems", the Bali conference was told. "The larger rivers have cut across mountain ranges creating awesome gorges, particularly in the Franklin-Gordon wild rivers region. Concluded



سنة من الاجل

Two hurdles to clear before accord on fish

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Two big hurdles have to be cleared before a common fisheries policy for the EEC can be agreed. The first hurdle is the agreement on the Danish-German presidency of the Community.

One is that the Danish Parliament, which has so far been opposed to the proposals which have already been approved by the nine other member states, must agree the terms.

This would appear to be the easiest hurdle to clear, as Mr. Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the Danish Foreign Minister, appears to have already obtained support from the Danish political parties for the package.

More difficult is to ensure that every other member state is satisfied with the "clarifications" given to Denmark, which is the main country involved, has yet to be told what these are. In consequence it is impossible to say at this stage whether they coincide with the British understanding of the CFP terms agreed so far.

Mr Peter Walker, the British minister for fisheries, made it clear in Brussels this week that the CFP package as it stood was not negotiable. Any "clarifications" it would have to be on subjects not specifically covered in the proposals, or else would have to be totally in line with British interpretations of the terms.

Denmark is expected to be seeking longer-term guarantees about mackerel catches of about

22,000 tonnes, and Britain will be very wary about approving any "clarifications" which might allow Denmark to believe it had the right to any fish in the future which it had not been allowed to catch in the past.

A vital factor in reaching settlement would seem to be the pressing domestic demands of both the Danish and West German governments.

The "clarifications" given to Denmark are expected to be given to other member states over the next few days with the Danish proposals remain a closely guarded secret, reliable sources here say that they include improved long-term guarantees on annual allocations of cod and mackerel for Denmark inside EEC waters, as well as in the waters of non-member states such as Norway, Sweden and the Faroe Islands, with which the EEC is eventually to negotiate fishing quotas after the Ten agree on their own fisheries policy.

"The British Government is fully aware that its national measures will cease to be valid on January 26 and must therefore be willing to make concessions," Mr Toerring said.

Mr Ellemann-Jensen said on Danish radio yesterday that the new Danish proposals by clearly within the framework drafted by the Danish Conservative-Liberal minority coalition Government and the leading opposition party, the Social Democrats last week.

Although details of the new Danish proposals remain a closely guarded secret, reliable sources here say that they include improved long-term guarantees on annual allocations of cod and mackerel for Denmark inside EEC waters, as well as in the waters of non-member states such as Norway, Sweden and the Faroe Islands, with which the EEC is eventually to negotiate fishing quotas after the Ten agree on their own fisheries policy.

● COPENHAGEN: Growing optimism about a possible impending agreement between Denmark and the other EEC members on a final solution to the fisheries dispute is causing concern among Danish fishermen. (Christopher Follett writes).

"Although I fully understand the need for discretion in a political solution to the fisheries dispute it is to be reached, I find the fact that the Danish Government has kept us totally in the dark rather disquieting," Mr Laurits Toermoes, the chairman of Denmark's Sea Fisheries Association and the Liberal Party spokesman, said.

Mr Toerring, the director of the Danish Fisheries Export Association, described Britain's threat to seize Danish vessels fishing inside its 12-mile offshore limits as "a Falkland ultimatum."

Government sources said that talks between Britain and Denmark would take place within the next two days.

● LONDON: The fishing industry in Britain was reacting cautiously last night to the prospect of a settlement of the dispute with Denmark (John Young writes).

Fishermen's organizations gave only reluctant support to the deal concluded by Mr Walker with the other eight EEC members and, until they know the precise terms of any agreement with Denmark, they remain suspicious.

Flour sale puts pressure on Europe

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The United States announced that it will subsidize the sale of one million tons of wheat flour to Egypt. It is carefully calculated move intended to increase pressure against European farm export subsidies. The largest market for wheat flour, has agreed to buy the flour for more than \$150m (£100m) over the next 12 to 14 months. Full financing details still have to be worked out, but the price Egypt is expected to pay will be about \$20 a tonne less than the world market price for wheat flour and almost \$120 less a tonne than the current US price.

American agricultural officials described the deal as a "warning shot across the bows of the Europeans", who have hitherto supplied about two-thirds of Egypt's 1.5 million tonnes of annual flour imports. Most of the flour has come from France.

BBC audiences in Pakistan have doubled

By Kenneth Gosling

Independent research has shown a dramatic increase in the size of the audience for BBC overseas radio programmes in Pakistan. The BBC Urdu language service, which is on the air for 10 1/2 hours a week, now has more than 10 million regular listeners in Pakistan compared with only half that figure in 1975.

"The BBC audience in Pakistan is now seven times as much as the combined Urdu listenership for Radio Moscow, Radio Peking, Voice of America and Deutsche Welle," according to Mr Douglas Munro, the managing director of the BBC's External Services.

US 'blackmail' over Greek bases

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Negotiations between the United States and Greece on the future of the American military bases in this country were resumed in Athens yesterday amid strong rumours of disagreement between the two sides.

"The Greek Socialist government wants a timetable for the removal of the bases on grounds that they serve United States strategic objectives rather than Greek security."

"Until the bases go the Greek Government wants restrictions on activities there, plus benefits for Greece in the form of weaponry that would preserve a balance of power with Turkey."

The "climate" in which the present round of talks resumed was exacerbated after a television interview in which

any commitment to dismantle the bases within a fixed period. The Greek view is that for the bases to serve its security, the offset benefit, in the form of cash (some speak of £600m) or military equipment, should enable Greece to stand up to Turkey in case of aggression in the Aegean.

American Congressmen in Athens have expressed scepticism that such sums could be considered by Congress, but admitted that the bases are vital for the United States.

The talks were resumed between Mr Yiannis Kapsis, the Greek Foreign Under-Secretary, and Mr Ronald Bartholomew, a senior diplomat who returned from Washington on Tuesday with the latest American answers to the Greek demands.



"Hope you felt at home in America, Mr Nakasone"

Washington keeps pressure on Japan

From Mohnin Ali, Washington

President Reagan, after two-day talks with Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, yesterday announced US-Japanese trade liberalization measures by Japan.

Mr Reagan said that they had taken the first significant steps towards resolving the urgent challenges which faced their two countries in trade and defence.

"We can now move forward with our 1983 agenda which seeks mutually acceptable answers to questions especially in trade that continue to weigh heavily on relationship."

Their talks took place in an atmosphere of growing American concern over the \$20,000m (£12,500m) imbalance in US Trade with Japan and worries over Japan's trade and defence spending policies. These have increased demands among some business, labour and congressional leaders for protectionist measures against Japanese imports into the US.

Describing their meetings as excellent both on a personal and ambassadorial level, Mr Reagan announced that they had agreed

to establish a United States-Japan working group on energy to "explore how the abundant opportunities for energy cooperation could be transformed into realities for the benefit of both their countries."

American officials later said that the working group would discuss oil, gas and synthetic fuel. Japan is known to be interested in the possible purchase of Alaskan oil.

Mr Nakasone also accepted an offer for Japanese participation in the United States shuttle programme, including an invitation for a Japanese specialist to be a part of the space lab mission.

The President said that they both looked forward to continuing "our efforts together to peaceful use of the vast expanses of space."

Mr Nakasone, replying to the President's remarks, said that he was going back home from this three-day Washington visit with satisfaction and confidence. He announced that he had invited Mr and Mrs Reagan to visit Japan at a date to be agreed.

'Not guilty' Astles stays in jail

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

For the second time in two years Mr Bob Astles, the British-born aide of the ousted President Idi Amin, has been acquitted by a Kampala court of serious charges. But he remains in Luzira prison under a detention order which cannot be questioned by a court.

Mr Astles has been in jail since 1979, when he was extradited to Uganda after fleeing to Kenya shortly before President Amin was overthrown by Tanzanian troops.

He was extradited to face a charge of murdering a fisherman on Lake Victoria in 1978, when he headed an anti-corruption squad of the Uganda police.

The murder charge was thrown out in 1981 by a High Court judge who said that some of the prosecution witnesses were untruthful and unreliable.

Last year, Mr Astles was charged in a Kampala magistrate's court with robbing a trader in a small village near Lake Victoria in 1978.

Mr Astles told the court that it would have been impossible to find the articles allegedly stolen in a small village store at a time when there was a severe shortage of all imported goods.

The case had lasted for five months. At one point the magistrate rebuked a state counsel for commenting that the decision of the court was immaterial as Mr Astles would not be released, even if he were acquitted.

Mr Astles, who became a Ugandan citizen in the 1970s, was then returned to jail. Court sources say that different charges may later be brought against him, but meanwhile he remains a detainee of the orders of President Obote.

Direct rule starts in Namibia

From Michael Horusby, Johannesburg

The vast, mineral-rich territory of Namibia, which South Africa seized from Germany in 1915, found itself back under direct rule from Pretoria yesterday after more than five years of semi-autonomous government.

Mr Danie Hough, South Africa's Administrator-General in the territory, dissolved the 72-member National Assembly as from midnight on Tuesday after Mr Dirk Mudge and his Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), a coalition of 11 different ethnic groups, had resigned as the interim government.

The DTA - South Africa's own creation - was an overwhelming victory in elections held under Pretoria's supervision in 1978. These elections were boycotted, however, by Swapo (the South-West Africa People's Organization) which has been waging a guerrilla war for Namibia's full independence for a decade and a half.

Mr Hough also announced that on Friday Mr J F Greebe, at present the Provincial Secretary of Natal, will take over as "chief executive officer" in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, in place of the now defunct Council of Ministers, which Mr Mudge and his DTA colleagues had hitherto constituted.

Mr Hough is himself to be replaced as Administrator-General from the beginning of next month by Professor Willem van Niekerk.

Mr Botha must now decide whether, in the absence of an international agreement leading to Namibia's independence, to maintain direct rule indefinitely or to hold another "internal" election without Swapo.

The final breach between DTA and the Government does at least give DTA the opportunity to work for an alliance with other smaller anti-Swapo groups in Namibia.

A father's long quest in the wilds of Kashmir

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi

Kenneth MacDonald left India yesterday at the end of another chapter in his extraordinary quest. It was the sixth time he had visited the wild mountains and valleys of Kashmir in search of his daughter, who was last seen eighteen months ago.

"My hope that she is still alive remains strong," he said, before leaving for home in Scotland. "There is no evidence that she is dead. She may have been taken by force and is unable to communicate with us. I shall return, for somewhere in Kashmir is the key to all this and I shall go on until I find it."

Mr MacDonald's story is one of faith. "We are a deeply religious family and believe that nothing happens by chance. Our hope is an extension of our faith."

His daughter, Alison, a history student at Aberdeen University, was nineteen when she was last seen on August 17, 1981. She was on holiday with a student friend, Elizabeth Merry. They booked into the Glacier Hotel, in Sonamarg, a small town fifty miles from Kashmir's capital, Srinagar.

On August Miss Merry went on a trek, leaving Miss MacDonald at the hotel. Next day Miss MacDonald locked the room and went out. An Italian couple, later traced by Mr MacDonald and interviewed by him in Bologna, saw her buy three apples from a stall and walk down the road. She was never seen again.

In her room she left her clothing, rucksack, money, passport and Bible.

Miss Merry returned from her trek on August 20, found her friend gone and raised the alarm. The Governor of Kashmir ordered a search of the rugged countryside and Mr MacDonald flew out to take part in it. He later offered a reward of £6,000 for information, very large by Indian standards.

In his subsequent visits he has painstakingly put together a jigsaw of his daughter's visit to Kashmir, interviewing everyone who saw her and spoke to her.

He has stayed in the same hotel room at Sonamarg and has been to Pakistan in the belief that she might have crossed the border. On his recent two-week trip he stayed in the same household the girls occupied in Srinagar before they set off for Sonamarg.

Mr MacDonald, a former Customs officer aged 44, is training for the ministry at the Free Church College, Edinburgh. Some of the money for his journeys is donated by sympathetic people.

"I never come to India to make inquiries in a haphazard way. There are always gaps to be filled in, questions to ask, people to see."

"Alison has two brothers and a sister. We are a close and loving family and she was devoted to it. This is not a case of a girl going off after a flirt."

"She may have been abducted and is being held prisoner. I have an open mind. Had she been dead her body would surely have been found, some trace left. The fact that nothing has been found helps to keep me and my wife going."

"I shall come back to carry on the search. It is a matter of persistence and faith. Someone must know something."

Manhunt for followers of drug 'king'

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Thai police and soldiers are blocking roads and other access to the Burmese border in north-west Thailand as a hunt goes on for three suspected followers of a drug warlord. The three hijacked a Thai domestic airliner on Tuesday.

Monks told the police that the men had come to their temple near Chiang Mai yesterday saying they were hungry. After being given food, they asked the way to a cave. The monks, who did not know who they were, directed them to it but a later search at the cave disclosed nothing.

Nobody was hurt in the hijacking and no damage was caused, but Thai officials are embarrassed by serious breaches of official rules during the incident.

The hijackers boarded the flight at Lampang, a small provincial airport. They were able to carry a pistol, sticks of dynamite, a hand grenade and a knife on board the airliner because of an electronic system for screening passengers had broken down.

The hijackers are believed to be followers of Khun Sa, the so-called "King of the Golden Triangle" who is considered the leading producer and trafficker of heroin in South-East Asia.

ANC refugees seek Mozambique shelter

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

More than 100 members of the underground African National Congress who until recently were living as refugees in Lesotho and Swaziland are reported to have moved to Mozambique, apparently targets for South African assassination squads.

According to informed sources in Maseru, the Lesotho capital, where 30 ANC members and 12 Lesotho civilians were killed in a South African commando raid on December 9 about 100 refugees were flown out to Maputo, the Mozambique capital, in six flights of the weekend before last.

There are some 11,000 South African refugees in Lesotho, a small mountainous kingdom surrounded by South Africa. Their numbers were greatly swelled after the Soweto riots of 1976-77 which eventually spread throughout South Africa. Probably only a small number of them are active ANC members.

Since the December 9 raid, Lesotho has been noticeably untroubled by the attentions of the Lesotho Liberation Army, the guerrilla wing of the exiled Basutoland Congress Party whose leader, Mr Ntso Mokhele, is a bitter political enemy of Chief Leabua Jonathan, the Lesotho Prime Minister.

Over the past year or so the LLA was responsible for a series of assassinations and hit-and-run guerrilla attacks, mostly launched from South African soil, in and around Maseru.

In Swaziland, which shares borders with both South Africa and Mozambique, 10 of the 27 ANC members rounded up by Swazi police "for their own protection" a week after the Maseru raid, are also reported to have gone to Maputo.

The remaining 17 walked out of the camp when they were kept outside Mbabane, Swaziland's capital, last Friday and have gone to Friday. It is thought that they may be moved out of the country.

Lisbon split on election

From Susan MacDonald, Lisbon

President Eanes, has once again started consultations with the political parties represented in the Portuguese Parliament in an effort to resolve the country's political crisis. Meetings were held yesterday and further consultations were scheduled for this morning.

It is understood that the recently formed Council of State will also be reconvened before the end of the week.

At Tuesday's Council meeting according to unofficial sources, members were already almost evenly divided over the question of whether to appoint Professor Vitor Crespo, the ruling Democratic Alliance's choice for prime minister, or to call for the dissolution of Parliament and subsequent general election.

Former foes toast a special relationship

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

President Mitterrand today addresses a specially convened session of the recently dissolved West German Parliament to mark the twentieth anniversary of a treaty that perhaps more than any other has shaped the development of West European politics: the Franco-German Treaty, signed in the Elysee Palace on January 22, 1963, by two of Europe's greatest statesmen, Charles de Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer.

In the past two decades that treaty has become the cornerstone of West German foreign policy. The turning of historic rivalries and mistrust into a political union welding two diverse neighbours into a single political and economic powerhouse in Europe was the vision of the two signatories, men whose long lives had been deeply affected by the bitterness of two world wars.

Though cooperation has

Anniversary of Franco-German treaty

developed ake. France is now, West Germany's largest trading partner.

Beyond all this, and of more lasting significance than the day-to-day political exchanges, is the orientation of the two countries' society and culture towards each other. Every year thousands of art exhibitions tour the other country's towns and provinces as well as the capitals.

The number of pupils learning French in Germany has risen to more than 1,400,000. The number of French pupils learning German has also increased. Student and school exchanges have flourished. Half of all twinned German cities have their partners in France.

All this has had a gradual but profound effect on West Germany. Politically it has anchored a society unsure of its post-war identity firmly in West Europe. It has enhanced appreciation of

each other's way of life. It has enabled West Germany to develop its own political and economic strength without arousing mistrust on the other side of the Rhine.

But the treaty has not smoothed out all the touchy points. Indeed, some of these are more visible today than they have been for years. Defence and security policy, whose coordination was a main aim of the treaty, remain a principal point at issue. From de Gaulle onwards the French have distanced themselves from Nato and from the Americans, whereas the Germans see their security in the Atlantic alliance.

Though France at times has enjoyed courting the Russians in order to carve out a special French role in East-West relations, the German relationship with Moscow is more vital, more subject to the pull of the East.

ANC refugees seek Mozambique shelter

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THE ARTS



Leonid Trauberg (left) ranks as one of the legendary pioneers of the heroic age of Soviet cinema...

Elena Kuzmina as shop assistant turned commuand in New Babylon



When film-making was all about circus and scandal

Leonid Trauberg, who has just been in London for the Queen Elizabeth Hall performances of his silent film New Babylon...

the film, showing bizarrely clad and made-up personages performing hazardous feats on the wings of aeroplanes...

suitable composer, they were advised that a newcomer called Shostakovich had written an opera, The Nose...

even better. Trauberg is full of praise for Hadari and Judith Webber's efforts in re-ordering the original manuscript...

There is one good scene - where the soldier is digging a grave. The only pity is that we can't put Kozintsev and Trauberg in that grave...

Concerts Haitink possessed

LPO/Haitink Festival Hall The Dream of Gerontius may be the great document of hypocrisy in music...

tone painting, luminous string chords for Gerontius' "strange, inhuman, abandoned"...

Too little substance BBC Singers/Poole

Barbican/Radio 3 The BBC's week-long celebration of Mozart and Schubert on Tuesday gave us the first of three lunchtime recitals...

Mozart's Duet-Sonata in C, K521, written, though no one would have guessed it from this performance...

Close to the heart Ton-Koopman

Wigmore Hall Besides his remarkable technique, the most impressive feature of Ton Koopman's harpsichord recital was the bewildering variety in it...

here, and he had a fine time with the wayward chromaticisms of a toccata by the early seventeenth-century Italian composer Giovanni Piccini...

Theatre Daisy Pulls It Off

Nuffield, Southampton Angela Brazil, the laureate of girls' public schools, had a long creative life most of which seems to be packed into this dramatized bumper album by Denise Deegan...



Alexandra Mathie as the ubiquitous Daisy

Television Celebration in needle time

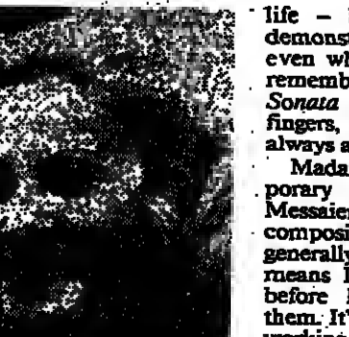
Next time you look at Dallas (BBC1), try to imagine the cast wearing practically nothing and balancing upturned flowerpots upon their heads...

Acceptance among the leading players

has taken a long time for Cécile Ousset (right), as Hilary Finch explains in introducing the French pianist's new British tour

Growing in the right garments

strong links with East Germany, Czechoslovakia and the USSR. Still France did not recognize her critics were strangely grudging in their praise...



Cécile Ousset (right), as Hilary Finch explains in introducing the French pianist's new British tour

life - but not for his pupils! He demonstrated a lot when he taught, even when his fingers were so stiff...

Malmaison Wine Club advertisement with details of wine sales and club information.

Irving Wardle advertisement for a concert featuring Daniel Barenboim and Malcolm Arnold's Trumpet Concerto.

Advertisement for a concert featuring Cécile Ousset and Hilary Finch, including details of the French pianist's tour.

Advertisement for a concert featuring Ton Koopman and Stephen Pettitt, including details of the harpsichord recital.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 532 من الإهل

THE TIMES DIARY

Kremlin coup

Early next month Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Press publishes an anthology of the speeches and writings of Yuri Andropov in its *Leaders of the World* series. The speed with which this fulfills Andropov's promotion to leadership status attests Maxwellian foresight in persuading Andropov to agree to the project 18 months ago. BPC's chairman has already profited on a smaller scale from the same hunch. At his firm's annual Christmas lunch with the BBC, for whom they print *Radiant Times*, it is the custom for participants to bet on the year's coming events. Maxwell's Christmas 1981 wager was that by Christmas 1982 Brezhnev would be dead and Andropov would have succeeded him. At the recent reunion he collected all round. Maxwell met Brezhnev on several occasions, but his dealings with Andropov have all been by correspondence.

EEC bacon saver

The keenest irony in the *Tribune* imbroglio has hitherto been missed. The power of directors to issue additional shares to employees without the consent of shareholders - used to frustrate John Sillkin's wish to take control of the paper - arises from a provision of the Companies Act which originates from the Second EEC Directive on Company Law, designed to encourage employee share ownership.

The Liberals' expert, Philip Goldenberg, takes malicious delight that Bennite Chris Mullin's bacon should thus have been saved by Britain's membership of the EEC. The European institutions give greater support than the sectarian politics of Westminster to all forms of genuine industrial democracy," he gloats.

Fresh misgivings about those surrounding the Queen sprang to the mind of a cyclist who rode what was punctured just outside Buckingham Palace. It had been flattened, he found, by a discarded hypodermic syringe.

Overdraft

Richard Ellman, who won the Duff Cooper award for his James Joyce biography, tells me, with what I take to be Joycean licence, that he has just finished the thirty-sixth draft of a book on Oscar Wilde. "By the forty-ninth I should have completed it, and hope to publish in about two years."

Stephen Spender, who presented Ellman with his prize on Tuesday night, is also hard at work, compressing the Oedipus plays into a three-hour version for the Oxford Playhouse in March. Because he only has "schoolboy Greek" he is working from seven translations.

Low tech

The Government has ways of making information technology work. During a meeting of the Commons standing committee on the British Telecommunications Bill, the television screen announcing what was happening in the chamber broke down. The Welsh Nationalist, Dafydd Wigley, deeply interested in the Water Bill, demanded vigorously that something must be done. "Hi, hi," suggested the urbane Minister for Information Technology, Kenneth Baker, smoothly.

The latest list of GLC grants includes one to the *Sensible Footwear Theatre Company*: £3,330 towards running costs.

Up and away

A piratical peer who is still handy with a cutlass (always aloft, upwards, he advises, and never down as they do in films) tells me he feels a catch in the throat when he hears the signature tune of BBC-1's *Holiday* travel programme. It is, he tells me, an old pirate song whose verses end with the words: "High on the galleons we..."

My aristocratic chum feels it the more since he was commended in death by Franco for some freebooting travel of his own, undertaken during the Spanish Civil War. "I was absent at the time of sentence, which is important on such occasions," he says, "but what will they use next? Perhaps 'Hey then, up we go' for a programme on air travel."

Guiding spirit

A grandnother is suing the Boy Scouts of America for the right to be a scoutmaster. Catherine Pollard of Milford, Connecticut, is asking the state's human rights commission to give her the job. She says she ran the local troop for four years in the absence of a male scoutmaster, but when she asked for the title she was told that, though she had done a fine job, "it takes a man to build a character." The Scouts' policy permits women to undertake various assignments in scouting, but not to be scoutmasters. Judge Helen Pearl, who is hearing the case, is herself a former cub-mistress.

British Airways, who invented the odorless kipper, will shortly surprise passengers on flights from South Africa with another delicacy: steaks of ostrich. My cookbooks say ostrich is good only for producing black and greasy blintz, but John Taylorson, head of BA's catering, says that is all wrong. The fillets, he says, are a cross between venison and beef, and will be delicious served in a creamed pepper sauce.

The challenge facing the Alliance now

Time to unveil the new mould

by David Marquand

Today sees the first of a series of Alliance rallies designed to set out the themes on which its two parties will campaign in the run-up to the general election. We shall do ourselves great damage if we become preoccupied solely with the economy. The Alliance was born of a revolt against Britain's political system; it is in our critique of that system that our real significance lies.

The politico-economic crisis with which successive British governments have grappled unavailingly for a decade and a half has given rise to three broad schools of thought. In the middle of the ideological spectrum - on the "wet" left of the Conservative Party and the old, Callaghan-Healey right of the Labour Party - are the true, small "c" conservatives. For these, the crisis is a myth. The Keynesian-managed capitalism which we have known since the war is still in working order, and so is the traditional "Westminster model" of parliamentary government. Britain's problems are to be overcome, not by rash new departures from the conventional wisdom of the recent past, but by solidifying on in the old familiar way, along the old, familiar paths.

On the two extremes of the spectrum - among the Conservative "dries" and the Labour left - are what might be called the economic radicals. Here, Conservatives and Labour differ greatly, but the differences are less striking than the similarities. Both recognize that the system can be overcome only by far-reaching changes. Both see it, however, as an economic crisis, not a political

one. Both are wedded to the existing political system, and both hope to use the enormous panoply of power which that system gives to a government in possession of a temporary majority in the Commons to force radical and irreversible changes on the economy.

The third school, to which the Alliance belongs and of which it is the vehicle, contains the political radicals. Like the conservatives, these believe that it is premature to mourn the death of Keynesian economics. Like the economic radicals, however, they also believe that Britain is in a state of crisis, from which the old ways offer no escape. Unlike both, they see it as a political crisis, to be overcome by political means.

Not luxuries but essentials for recovery and peace

For them proportional representation, parliamentary reform, decentralization of government and a bill of rights - indeed, all the interconnected political and constitutional reforms without which Britain cannot adapt herself to the economic and social changes since the "Westminster model" took its modern form nearly 100 years ago - are not luxuries, to be postponed until the more pressing bread-and-butter questions of jobs, prices and social welfare have been answered. They are necessary conditions of economic recovery and social peace.

Few ordinary voters consciously belong to this third school. Most do so unconsciously. The British people know they have been badly governed for the last quarter of a century. They also know that the fault lies less in the particular policies of particular governments than in the system: in the weary defeatism of the Whitehall mandarin, in the narrow sectionalism of the organized producer groups on both sides of industry, in the introversion and unrepresentativeness of the two big parties.

That is why they gave the Alliance such an enthusiastic welcome in the tumultuous eight months between the launch of the SDP and the Crosby by-election, when it seemed to promise a change of system rather than mere changes of policy. If we are to rekindle that enthusiasm, we must give the promise which evoked it as high a priority as we did when we began.

Slogans about "breaking the mould" are not enough. Still less reliance on the piecemeal ad-hocery which the British Establishment confuses with common sense. Since the mid-1960s, this country has suffered a long series of ad hoc constitutional changes and attempted changes - an abortive plan for House of Lords reform, two abortive plans for devolution in Scotland and Wales; three different schemes of parliamentary reform; sweeping changes in the structure of local government and the boundaries of local authorities; the introduction of the popular referendum. They sprang from no coherent principle and embodied no public consensus. Partly because of this, they failed, almost without

exception, to achieve the objectives for which their authors had hoped. If we have learned anything from the last 20 years, we should have learned that the constitution is a whole, made up of interrelated parts; that it is fatal to make changes in one part without thinking through the consequences for the others; and that the deepening constitutional malaise which lies at the root of this country's political and economic ills can be cured only by a comprehensive settlement, based on coherent and explicit principles.

Pointing the way to the Alliance's place in history

The means are at hand. Soon after it was formed, the Alliance set up two joint SDP-Liberal commissions, one on economic recovery and one on constitutional reform. The first did the groundwork for the Alliance's economic strategy. If it has the courage and imagination, the second can yet delineate the outlines of the new constitutional settlement which ought to be an Alliance government's chief claim to a place in British history.

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Richard North looks at the Whitehall anomaly in land improvements

Digging out the farmers' two-way cash crop

Farmer Tom Richards would like to combine conservation, tradition and profit, and believes he can. His Welsh farm has lovely soggy field, *Gwynn Goch* (red meadow), abundant in streams, flowers, birds and butterflies.

The Nature Conservancy Council, which is funded by the Department of the Environment, pays him small sums to forgo some of the extra profit that would result from draining the field. He regards the arrangement as fair. If he wished, though, he could benefit greatly from a structure of subsidies for land improvement and EEC-supported prices for extra produce already in massive surplus.

In this crazy system, two government ministries pursue opposing objectives: the Ministry of Agriculture spends a fortune tempting farmers to wreck the countryside in the cause of greater productivity; Environment now proposes to spend even more money than at present in bribing the farmers to resist these blandishments.

The problem is the result of a long misreading of farming practices. For too long farmers have persuaded the public that Britain must produce more and more milk and meat, while the conservation movement has been slow in showing what a dangerous and expensive charade modern farming has become.

Critics ranging from Richard Body, Conservative MP and author of the recently published *Agriculture: The Triumph and the Shame*, to Marian Sheard, with her *Theft of the Countryside*, have castigated the maze of grants and subsidies which bolster farmers' incomes. Farmers, uniquely among British businessmen, are not hampered by serious planning controls as they change the face of the landscape.

Several independent reports are due to be published this spring which will urge tougher regulations in the countryside.

Left to themselves, many farmers would continue to farm as their predecessors did. But the Ministry of Agriculture, in spite of a statutory obligation to take account of conservation, tempts them with grants to drain or plough land in order to increase production (it also increases their dependence on fertilizer, pesticides, bought-in seed, diesel fuel and machinery, much of it also subsidized).

Cynics in the Ministry admit that we do not need such extra production but insist that every pint of milk and bag of grain helps Britain gain EEC funds. Until recently, the Ministry often steamrollered through its policy against Department of Environment opposition.

The Treasury has called on the Ministry of Agriculture to revise the cost-benefit analysis on which it assesses grant-aid, since it is suspected of being crucially weighted in favour of "improvement," whatever the cost to taxpayers or the environment; Treasury pressure is also believed to have gone a long way toward insisting that the Ministry consults the DOE before grant-aid is given to farmers in sensitive areas. The first major fruit is believed to be the compromise over Halvergate Marsh,



in Norfolk's Broadland, where grant-aid on some proposed drainage schemes has been withheld. But two bodies, the Council for the Protection of Rural England and the Council for National Parks (CPRE AND CNP), are alleging skulduggery by the DOE. It apparently tried to keep as a "departmental matter" (that is to say, not scrutinized by Parliament) the proposed financial guidelines for compensating farmers whose freedom to take grant-aid to change their farming practices is restricted by conservation requirements.

The CPRE and CNP have drawn attention to conflicting ministerial statements during the closing stages of the Wildlife and Countryside Act's passage through Parliament which led MPs and peers to expect a degree of control over what the guidelines were to be.

"It is proposed that farmers be compensated for the profit they would have made," says John Bowers, an economist at Leeds University. "But typically between 50 and 80 per cent of that profit would have been subsidy, and sometimes more." No comparable principle of compensation exists elsewhere in the economy.

"It does seem peculiar," says Richard Body. "After all, a farmer buys a farm knowing that it has, say, wetland on it, and gets it on the cheap because of its lower productivity. It appears rather naughty to expect to be paid handsomely for forgoing subsidy from the taxpayer to improve the value of the land."

The sums involved are large. In one deal, in Kent, a farmer is said to have negotiated compensation of £100,000 a year. In another case, Warren Farm on Exmoor's National Park, compensation alone more than 10 per cent of capital - would have justified purchase by an incoming farmer. Appalled, the National Park bought the farm itself.

The CPRE and CNP have engaged the interest of the chairman of the Commons Select Committee on the Environment, Reg Freeson, to bring the issue under public scrutiny. The Government will be faced with an embarrassing choice: to stonewall taxpayers' expenditure on spoiling the countryside, or admit the need for regulation, or to pay dearly for conservation, even when it is government expenditure which most threatens it.

in West Germany this autumn. He brought with him maps and charts and experts. He sat down straightaway to detailed talks with Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his West German opposite number, and brushed away vague talk of progress and insisted that much had to be done if agreement was to be reached. He laid out the Soviet positions coolly, like Mr Andropov, in the sure knowledge that they would be reported fully and immediately to Washington. And he appealed over the heads of the politicians to the German public's self-interest in not letting itself be influenced by Washington into taking steps - ie deployment - that would damage the relations with Eastern Europe painstakingly built up in the past decade.

He did not succeed in undermining Chancellor Kohl's firm support for Nato's deployment policy. Nor did he convince the press and public opinion that the Russians bore no responsibility for the breakdown of détente and the deadlock in Geneva. But he did achieve three important

aims: he brought the question of the British and French missiles into the foreground of public discussion; he increased pressure on the Germans quietly to lobby the Americans to moderate the zero option as the only acceptable formula at Geneva; and he ensured that the missiles issue, despite the reluctance of the three main parties, became a central issue in the election campaign, by highlighting the differences between the parties - the Christian Democrats standing pat on deployment, the Free Democrats hankering for an interim solution if necessary, and the Social Democrats veering toward outright opposition to any deployment.

Mr Gromyko could afford to take a moderate, above-party-politics approach because, like the Americans, the Russians are waiting to see the outcome of the Bonn election. If Dr Kohl wins, they need not think they have lost the game. If the Chancellor is suspected of having given Washington a blank cheque for new missiles, regardless of the

Ronald Butt

Viva Victorian virtues

If the world and its press had not been riveted on what Mrs Thatcher had to say on the date of the general election (and in the event she said little more than wait and see) it would have paid more attention to that part of her long television interview with Mr Brian Walden last Sunday in which she fully accepted that her vision for the future involved a wish to restore Victorian values. Even so, what she said was enough to amaze some of the bourgeoisie.

Mrs Thatcher had described her vision of the future Britain in which people were more independent of the state. When Mr Walden suggested that this vision implied a restoration of Victorian values, Mrs Thatcher embraced the idea with enthusiasm.

The Victorian age in which these values prevailed was, she said, one in which Britain became great; when great things were achieved by voluntary action (including the building of schools and hospitals on an unparalleled scale) and when people who prospered used their independence and initiative to prosper others.

It was in short, a vision to scandalise the strange personality of Lab-Lib England as represented by *The Guardian*, which saw it not simply as a restatement of the basic Conservative teaching of self-help, thrift and individual striving but as implying a return to the "Victorian tradition" that the poor and disadvantaged should find salvation through the philanthropy of the better-off. It suggested that a climate of Victorian reverence and fear in industry was a necessary part of her formula.

The conventional Lab-Lib mind detests private charity as a humiliation to its beneficiaries while seeing no humiliation in the queues of supplicants for the dispensations of state bureaucracy. It sees no humiliation in the queues at hospitals and surgeries where doctors short of time and frayed of nerves address patients *de haut en bas* and where cases of need have to wait in equality with those cases where the need has been created by the over-easy facility. It sees no humiliation in an over-burdened health system where home visits have almost ceased to be a reality and the doctor's receptionist rules.

It sees no humiliation for the suppliant seeking the welfare dispensed by those enjoying their little brief authority as arbiters of social priorities. It sees nothing humiliating in a system under which a boy or girl's chance of university study hangs wholly on the changing financial state of the state. It sees nothing humiliating for universities and colleges when they must wait on the funds available to them in any particular year for lack of financial independence, with the result that some are forced into retrenchment that threatens the very existence of valued institutions and departments that were encouraged to over-expand when the state seemed flush with money.

To the Lab-Lib mind there is a simple answer to this. Never cut the aid. Go on spending collectively

more and more until the bones of a bankrupt society are all that remains of the spendthrift economy which laddies out money when the going seems easy and withdraws it in a panic during hard times. State "giving" just allows independence to its beneficiaries, keeping them always dependent.

The same distrust of independence is found in attitudes to housing. The political left instinctively dislikes private ownership and, still more, private rented accommodation, preferring the collocated accommodation that has been introduced according to bureaucratic interpretation of social justice. Of course, council accommodation had its origin in a generous concern for those unable to house themselves adequately and for this purpose it will always have a place. But it now also has other overtones. Labour authorities buy up private properties in which they can plant tenants, create dependency and, with luck, gain votes.

The case against the existing welfare state is not that it is concerned with the welfare of the people but that it takes a form which gives to government great spending power and a damaging right to provide and withdraw money according to criteria defined by itself at any time. It is a system which has become so all-embracing as to be inimical to real independence and responsibility.

Yet there could be another sort of welfare state. The trouble in Britain is that we have created a bogus equation between the welfare state and the *socialist* welfare state.

Between now and the election, Mrs Thatcher has to show that her concept of the welfare state could bring better welfare. To admire the independence, energy and philanthropy of the Victorians is not to wish to return to their standards of social class and relative riches which were outmoded by the increased wealth, new inventions and new ideas of our century. If people are given reasonable responsibility for themselves, they will tend to act responsibly. If instead they are supplicants at the state's counter, they will grab what they can, for in doing so, they do not see the others that they hurt. They see only the impersonal face behind the counter who pays out but does not really pay. The signs are that an understanding of responsibility is reemerging under this government. If it were not, Mrs Thatcher would not lead to the public opinion polls.

But the Prime Minister needs to be more explicit about the framework of social responsibility within which the state's responsibility is to be encouraged, especially in places of work. If the selfishness of militant union leaders is to be rejected, it must be replaced by the participation of workers in a genuine fraternity of the workplace. That is why works councils, profit sharing and participation matter. To be successful, Mrs Thatcher's road to a responsible society requires not the diminution of the state's concern for welfare, but a ceaseless search for what the state can do to help people help themselves.

Nicholas Ashford

As Reagan slips, stand by for summity

Washington. There is a macabre, almost grisly quality about the way in which political society in Washington goes about disposing of presidents whose power or popularity is thought to be in decline.

Congress and the press between them sliced up President Carter during his last two years in office like a piece of salami. And now knives are being sharpened around town for Ronald Reagan, who this week begins the second half of his presidential term.

A recent editorial in *The New York Times* declared that "the stench of failure hangs over Ronald Reagan's White House." Now *The New York Times* is the flagship of the East Coast liberal establishment and has never been a supporter of Mr Reagan. However, until recently the newspaper, in deference to the President's popularity and the scale of his early legislative victories, has been notably restrained in its criticism of the Reagan presidency.

In the *Washington Post*, David Broder, one of America's most perceptive political columnists, has pronounced that the phasing out of Reaganism is well under way.

But among conservatives also, the people who two years ago saw Reagan as their Sir Galahad, a sense of disillusionment has set in. An editorial in the latest issue of the conservative weekly *Human Events*, complained that the Administration was adrift.

The fact that Mr Reagan is now under attack from the left and the right could be taken to mean that he is steering a sound course at the centre of the political spectrum. This would appear to be his own interpretation as he intersperses his work days at the White House with leisurely breaks in California and at Camp David. No one, at least, is accusing him of being a workaholic, as they did Mr Carter.

However, critics on the left and right are both making the same point - that he has allowed his leadership to become seriously eroded.

For right-wingers this loss of authority is demonstrated by the way ideology has given way to pragmatism; and the fact that the conservatives whose counsel he heeds most are "moderates" such as Mr James Baker, the White House chief of staff, and middle-of-the-road congressmen such as Senators Howard Baker and Robert Dole. Conservatives blame these "re-

alists" (a disparaging term in the vocabulary of the radical right) for a string of recent reverses and policy changes. There was the \$227,000 million tax increase last August, the five-cents-a-gallon increase in the price of petrol, and a congressional snub to the MX missile. Now the President has been persuaded not only to agree to \$8,000m cut in defence spending - one of the right-wingers' sacred cows - but also to consider a whole range of revenue-raising schemes (ie taxes) to try to reduce the budget deficit.

Mr Reagan is no longer perceived as the tough leader who was able to carry all before him during the first 18 months of his time in office. For right-wingers he has become overly cautious and unimaginative.

On the other side of the political divide, Mr Reagan's lack of leadership is seen as manifesting itself in his inability to recognize his past errors, in particular the shambles caused by his Administration's economic policies. Although he has recently started tinkering with these policies, he has failed to grasp the basic point that one cannot cut taxes greatly, increase defence spending and still end up with a balanced budget.

Mr Reagan's conduct of foreign policy has also come in for questioning. He appears divided between those in his Administration who favour a tough line with the Soviet Union and those who want to respond more positively to Mr Andropov's peace proposals. His widely-praised Middle East peace initiative is floundering because Israel senses no real pressure from the Reagan Administration to take it seriously. He listens to conflicting advice about how to treat the European allies.

There is one relatively easy way for Mr Reagan to overcome this leadership crisis - by engaging in summity. There is growing speculation in Washington that during the course of this year he will not only host a summit meeting with the Soviet leaders but with the Chinese as well. Summits make good television. They also give the impression of the President as a man of action. If he were to be seen concluding an arms control agreement with Mr Andropov, this would restore his image as a dynamic leader and enhance his prospects for 1984 - if he decides to run again. And some of the knives which are now being sharpened might be returned to their sheaths.

Michael Binyon

سكز لمن لا يملك

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Chancellor of the University of London, was present this afternoon at a Presentation Ceremony at the Royal Albert Hall...

Women's Transport Service (FANY) this evening visited the Douglas, Duke of York's Headquarters, London, SW3, where Her Royal Highness was received by the Corps Commander, Mrs S. Y. Parkinson...

Princess Anne will attend a lively dinner of the Farmers' Company at Mansion House on February 21. Princess Anne, as Chancellor of London University, will visit Canterbury Hall, on February 22...

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. Gray and Miss A. Showring
The engagement is announced between Richard, third son of Dr & Mrs Gray, of Sydney, Australia, and Adrienne, elder daughter of Lady Showring and the late Sir Kelly Showring of Sharncombe Park, Dinder, Wells, Somerset.

European award for town

An English county town has won one of five medals awarded throughout Europe in the latest contest held by Europa Nostra, an international federation of conservation societies.

Birthdays today

Lord Aylestone, 78; Mr Tom Baker, 47; Mr George Burns, 87; Mr Derek Dougan, 43; the Very Rev D. L. Edwards, 54; the Hon Sir Henry Fisher, 65; Sir James Hanson, 61; Major Dick Hain, 62; Mr Royallton Kisch, 64; Commandant Vonla McBride, 62; Mr H. P. J. Marshall, 77; Mr Roy Plomley, 68; Sir Roy Wellesley, 76; Professor N. C. Wickramasinghe, 44.

Latest appointments

Major-General M. B. Farrdale
Latest appointments include: Major-General M. B. Farrdale to be Commander 1st (British) Corps on March 31, in the rank of Lieutenant-General.

Marriages

Mr C. M. R. Nickles and Miss J. F. Clarke
The marriage took place on January 14 at the Church of St John Baptist, Bere Regis, between Mr Charles Nickles, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Nickles, and Miss Judith Clarke, elder daughter of the Commander and Mrs Richard Clarke, Canon D. Shaw officiated, assisted by Canon L. Bird.

Middle Temple

Lord Carrington has been elected an Honorary Master of the Bench of the Middle Temple.



Brothers in tune 40 years on

Two musician brothers straight out of the pages of Schindler's Ark, the Booker prize-winning book by Thomas Kenaley, have been reunited in London after last playing together at the Plashow concentration camp in Poland nearly 40 years ago during the Second World War. They were among Jewish prisoners saved from the Nazis by Herr Oskar Schindler, a German businessman.

Memorial service

Lord Netherthorpe
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Lord Netherthorpe was held at the Church of St Lawrence Jewry, next Guildhall in the City of London yesterday. The Rev Basil Watson officiated assisted by the Rev O. R. Fulljames and an address was given by Mr Hugh Mellon.

Professors bridge the gap

By Lucy Hodges
Education Correspondent
Two new-style professors with one foot in industry and the other in academic life have been appointed at Salford University. It is claimed that these are the first such appointments to be made in Britain.

University news

Cambridge University has issued the following corrections to its list of entrance awards:
CLARE COLLEGE: J. C. Watts, Wright (an error in the name of the student).

Latest wills

Sir Richard Douglas Barlas, of Titcherth, East Sussex, Clerk of the House of Commons from 1976-79, left estate valued at £40,369 net.
Mr Norman Richard Collins, of Hampstead, London, the author and broadcaster who wrote London Belongs to Me, left estate valued at £225,026 net.

Moreover... Miles Kingston

Eat your heart out, Soho
When I was in Soho the other day (putting down a hire purchase deposit on an imported basket of strawberries), my eye was caught by a sign outside a sex cinema saying "Closing down soon: prices halved". It reminded me that Westminster is planning to reduce drastically the number of sex cinemas in Soho, and that soon these old-fashioned establishments will be little more than a memory.

Service

The TAVR Association for Greater London held a dinner at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, last night. Colonel G. S. P. Carden, president and among those present were Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Hudson, Major-General H. D. A. Leach, Major-General M. N. Layton, and Colonel R. W. H. Crawford.

OBITUARY

DR ARTURO ILLIA
Former President of Argentina

Dr Arturo Illia, who was the elected President of Argentina from October 1963 until his overthrow by the armed forces in June 1966, died in Cordoba, Argentina, on January 18 at the age of 82.



During his time in office, Illia did much to restore civil liberties and the working of democracy; and by comparison with its more recent straits the economy was reasonably healthy. But he encountered virulent opposition from the Peronists, who were responsible for riots, and from the armed forces, who disliked what they saw as the disorder of democracy.

It was during Illia's presidency that the first moves were made towards diplomatic settlement of the Falklands dispute. As a result of Argentine pressure the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution in 1965 calling for negotiations, and Britain and Argentina subsequently began their talks on the issue.

After last year's invasion of the Falklands, Illia was one of those Argentines who were sceptical of the wisdom of such a move. He commented that one knew how such things started, but not how they ended.

But there was continuing turbulence in the country, coupled with threats of intervention by the armed forces. In October, 1964, when General de Gaulle was in Argentina during his tour of South America, he had to abandon a speech he was making halfway because of shouts of "Peron" by demonstrators.

Arturo Umberto Illia was born on a farm near Pergamino in 1900, the son of an Italian immigrant. He trained as a doctor and, though he was already interested in politics, went into private practice, visiting his patients on a mule.

In 1936 he was elected to the provincial senate of Cordoba as a Radical, and he remained a member of that party throughout his political career. He became vice-governor of Cordoba, a member of the Chamber of Deputies in Buenos Aires, and in 1962 was elected governor of Cordoba, only to have the election annulled.

MR VERNON BARTLETT

Mr Vernon Bartlett, CBE, who has died at the age of 88, had, during a long career as a journalist and broadcaster, made a considerable impact on the reading and listening public as a commentator on world affairs. Well travelled, and with personal acquaintanceship with many of the statesmen and diplomats of his times, he was always at great pains to provide commentaries on movements and trends in overseas affairs which were for them and him the trust of a large audience, both for his written journalism and for radio of which he was one of the earlier household names.

Barlett was a many-sided man. He was passionately devoted to liberalism in its widest sense. Between the wars the defence of human rights and the necessity for the search for peace were constant themes of his. Having won a notable election victory in 1938 he sat for twelve years as an independent in Parliament. He was a prolific author and published on foreign affairs, travel and wrote memoirs and novels among which were a novel version of the play Journey's End which he produced in collaboration with its author, R. C. Sherriff. After the First World War he was London Director of the League of Nations Secretariat.

University news

Cambridge University has issued the following corrections to its list of entrance awards:
QUEEN'S COLLEGE: A. P. M. D. Orchard, a student who had been awarded a scholarship in Classics to read at the University of Cambridge, has been found to be ineligible for admission to the University.

On the outbreak of war in 1914 he joined up and saw service on the Western Front but was invalided out in 1915. He joined the Daily Mail in 1916 and subsequently went to Reuters remaining there until 1919. In that year he joined The Times and served in Bern, Germany, Poland and later Rome.

MR JOSEPH MOTT, GC

Mr Joseph Mott, GC, who saved many lives on Christmas Day, 1937 when he picked up a bomb in a cafe in Halifax and threw it out of the window, died on January 12 in Basildon, Essex, at the age of 68.

MR MONTAGUE BERNARD

Mr Montague Bernard, who had a career as an art dealer spanning nearly 60 years, died on January 12 at his home in London at the age of 81.

When the opportunity of becoming London Director of the League of Nations Secretariat came along in 1922 his experience, liberal habits of mind and repugnance of war made him a natural candidate for the post, which he held until 1932. The ruin of the hopes of the League in the 1930s disappointed a man whose

belief in the vital necessity of a well ordered international community was so strong. But neither that, nor a further world war ever shattered that belief. During this period he was second as an author. As early as 1925 he had published The Brighter Side of European Chaos which he called "a diplomat's scrapbook". A novel Calf Lore (1929) used the pre-war Berlin experiences and No Man's Land (1930) was a novel of the trenches. Also, besides the Sherriff collaboration there was Nazi Germany Explained (1933).



Investment and finance
City Editor
Anthony Hilton

Battle for state industries

Leaders of our nationalized industries are most concerned about a Private Member's Bill which had its first reading in Parliament on Tuesday. The brainchild of Mr Norman St John Stevas... The present policy, drafted by the ICI director Mr Ronald Ibb during his secondment to the "Think Tank", says basically that the government department should act like a holding company board. It should map out the philosophy and monitor progress, but should leave the actual running of the businesses to its managers.

Average earnings grow by 8.5 per cent

Pay rises hit five-year low, but still ahead of inflation

Average earnings are now rising more slowly than at any time in the last five years, but are keeping well ahead of price increases. Figures from the Department of Employment yesterday show that the underlying increase in earnings in the year to November was 8.5 per cent, down from 9.8 per cent in October and 11 per cent a year earlier. This is the lowest yearly rise since November 1977.

This means that real earnings have been rising - one explanation of the retail sales boom in the second half of last year. Only 4 per cent of Britain's 20 million workers had settled by November, with the bulk of pay deals concluded between January and June. But the evidence so far points to a significant reduction in settlements from last year.

AVERAGE EARNINGS
Whole economy, seasonally adjusted

Index	Jan 1978	% change on year earlier	Underlying
1981 Oct	2144	11.3	11
Nov	2144	11.3	11
Dec	2155	10.1	11
1982 Jan	2154	10.8	11
Feb	2154	11.4	10.8
Mar	2157	11.0	10.7
Apr	2153	10.2	10.4
May	2203	10.4	10
June	2278	9.8	9.7
July	2278	11.0	9.7
Aug	229	7.8	8
Sept	228.7	6.8	8
Oct	230	8.3	8.4
Nov	222.1	8.3	8.5

department statisticians is regarded as a more reliable guide to earnings trends. The Government is hoping that most of the crucial pay deals in the present round will be out of the way by late spring when the rate of inflation - after falling to about 5 per cent - is expected to rise.

Share vote backs Viyella takeover

Vantona has won the first stage of its battle to take over rival textiles company Carrington Viyella. But if the merger goes through Mr Bill Fieldhouse, chairman of Carrington Viyella, will have to fight for payment of any golden handshake in the courts.

News in brief

International

Fiat is withdrawing from the US car market where it sells only two models, the X-19 and the 124 Spider, a company official said in Turin yesterday.

Markets

Equities rallied, helped by the firmer pound and bear closing, with the FT Index closing 6.8 up at 621.6. Gilts ended the day with gains of 2 1/2.

The dollar made further gains on world currency markets as the flight out of Deutschemarks continued. It rose 1.87 pfennigs to DM 2.4117. The pound, trading on the sidelines, was slightly down on the dollar at \$1.5745 but its currency basket index rose 0.3 to 82.3.

Companies

The appointment of Mr David Roberts and Mr Martin Bunting as members of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was announced yesterday. Mr Richards, 54, is a senior partner of Deloitte Haskin and Sells and Mr Bunting, 48, is a director of Imperial Group.

Although Racal Electronics announced pretax profits up from £38.44m to £46.98m for the half year ending October 15, the second half will not see the same percentage increase and pretax profits for the year are expected to be between £115m and £125m, as against £102.62m.

Tate & Lyle announced earnings up for the fourth successive year: at 48p a share they are up 29 per cent on last year. Page 14

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 621.6 up 6.8
FT Gilts 78.90 up 0.23
FT All Share 395.07 up 2.28
Bargains 24.021
Tring Hall USM Index: 155.1 up 0.4
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 906.54 up 16.83
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones 7,968.88 down 59.60
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1,074.87 down 4.78

CURRENCIES

Sterling 1.5745 down 20pts
Index 82.3 up 0.3
OM 3.80
Fr F 10.7725
Yen 369.50
Dollar Index 119.1 up 0.8
OM 2.4117 up 187pts
Gold \$496.50 up \$10.50

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates
Base rates 11
3-month interbank 11 7/16
Euro-currency rates
3-month dollar 8 3/4-8 7/8
3-month DM 5 1/2-5 5/8
3-month Fr F 20 3/4-20 1/2
ECGD Fixed Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period December 8, 1982 to January 4, 1983 inclusive \$0.833 per cent.

TODAY

Interim: Davy Corp, Andr de Bruijn, Deacons, MFI, Alfred Walker.

Finals: Eurotherm Intl, Greenfriar Invest and Co, Lada Inv Tst, V J Lovell, Sun African Land and Exp.

Economic statistics: Cyclical indicators for the UK economy (Dec); preliminary estimate of consumers' expenditure (4th qtr); public sector borrowing requirement and details of local authority borrowing (4th qtr).

PRICE CHANGES

BAT Ind 689p up 25p
Audiocron 15p up 3p
Delta Inv 280p up 15p
French T. 140p up 15p
Telbex 6 1/2 up 1 1/4p
Tale & Lyle 254p up 22p
AGB Resrch 292p down 17p
Ferranti 447p down 10p
Gestetner 33p down 5p
Plessey 602p down 20p
Racal Elect 484p down 63p
Rwintree Mack 204p down 6p



Lord Forte: waiting for The Savoy

THF still has an eye on Savoy

Lord Forte, chairman of Trusthouse Forte, still has his sights on the Savoy group, where THF owns 65 per cent of the equity, but controls only 40 per cent of the voting capital. The share stake was "an investment for the future", Lord Forte said yesterday. THF did not intend selling the shares, nor launching a new bid, but was prepared to wait indefinitely until the directors and Sir Hugh Wootton, chairman of the Savoy, approach us in due course about the management.

Lloyds & Scottish profits slump

The cost of buying Bowmaker and Hamilton Leasing has left Lloyds and Scottish, the finance house, with profits of £10.7m against £29.2m - much lower than expected. Shareholders - mainly Lloyds Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland - have had their dividend cut by 30 per cent to 3.87p and are faced with a rights issue to raise £70m. Without Bowmaker and Hamilton, profits would have been nearer £18m. The rights issue is to pay off the loans incurred in buying the two companies. Their acquisition cost £7.3m in finance charges last year.

Plea on industry's 'dive'

The Confederation of British Industry may ask the Government to designate the West Midlands, once the heartland of British engineering, as an assisted area in a bid to halt what it describes as the "dramatic dive" in the region's economy. Regional assistance is one of the options the CBI is considering before it meets government officials to urge positive action to correct the underlying structural weaknesses in the West Midlands economy.

Banks plan Yugoslav debt rescue

A representative group of leading bank lenders to Yugoslavia, including Barclays, will meet in London tomorrow to hammer out details of a rescue for the country. It is hoped that arrangements can be completed by the middle of next month, but assessing each bank's exposure to Yugoslavia is proving complicated. The whole rescue deal, which involves governments, central banks, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank as well as commercial banks, is now believed to be worth \$3,000m (£1,910m).

Dow dips as investors take profits

Revised profit-taking saw share prices lose ground in early trading in New York, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average losing 4.78 to 1,074.87 by mid-morning. Declines led advances by 515 to 433 on turnover of \$5.5 million shares, but business was described as low key after Monday's performance, which saw the Dow oust its record high of 1,092.35.

Illingworth bid panel enlarged

A sixth member of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission has been appointed to the panel examining a bid for the Yorkshire textiles group Illingworth. Morris in order to avoid the possibility of a row if the commission's eventual recommendation on the bid is split. He is Mr David Richards, a senior partner of accountants Deloitte Haskin and Sells.

Higher gas payments prompt new interest in exploration

N Sea licence bids raise £30m

The Government expects to raise about £30m from the auction of exploration acreage in the latest North Sea licensing round, and can look forward to a significant increase in the search for and development of gas fields off the east coast of England. Coocoo, the American oil company, said yesterday it was considering developing two gas discoveries in the southern North Sea at a cost of £190m. This disclosure coincides with publication of the results of this week's eighth offshore licensing round in which companies chased gas prospects more fervently than potential oil finds.

last year of the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill, which broke British Gas's monopoly powers of purchase over offshore gas finds. British Gas also told companies it is prepared to pay several times as much for newly found gas as it paid for the first discoveries in the 1960s. Oil companies have long complained that low gas prices have prevented development of new fields. Coocoo said higher prices had encouraged it to consider development of the Victor and Valiant fields off East Anglia and Lincolnshire. These could start producing gas by the mid to late 1980s. It also announced a third gas discovery South-west of the producing Viking field.

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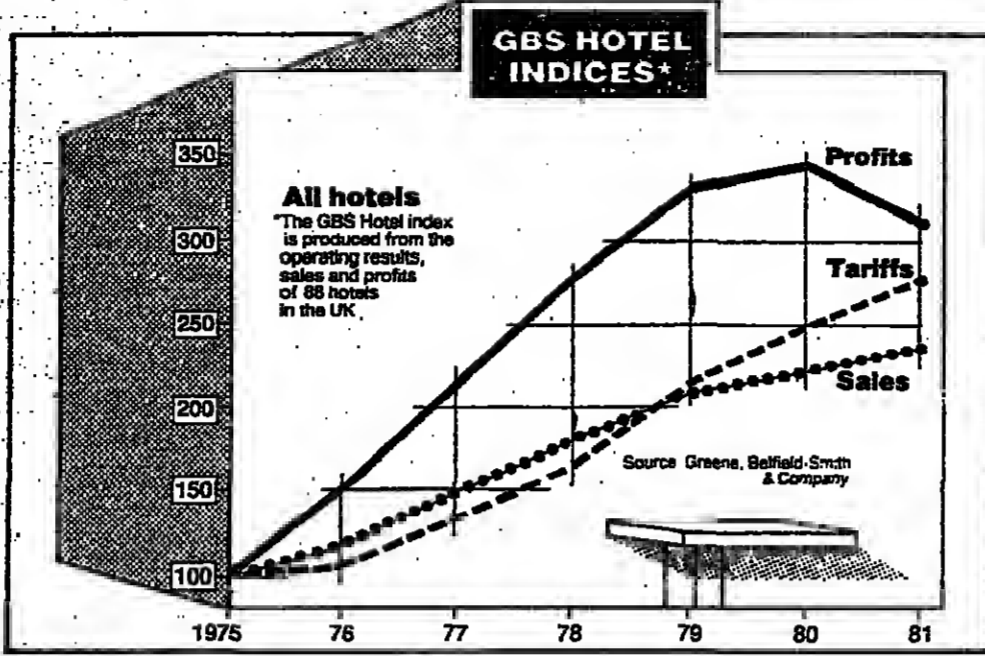
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APPOINTMENTS

Peter Hook to head Bowmaker

Mr Peter Hook has been appointed managing director, Bowmaker, and director, corporate finance division, Lloyds Bowmaker Finance Group. Mr Roy Moir, formerly of Guthrie Bookers Merchants International, has joined the Clothing Export Council as chief executive, menswear division. Mr Paul G. Gyllenhammar is to be a non-executive director of S. Pearson & Son. Mr Neil Benson, a non-executive director of Godfrey Davis (Holdings), has been appointed deputy chairman. Mr John Kerns, managing director, car dealership, and a member of the main board, had been made group managing director. Mr Mike Wynne, previously managing director, contract hire operation, has joined the main board, responsible for new projects. Mr Nicholas Horsley, chairman of Northern Foods, is to serve a third year as president of the Dairy Trade Federation, the first time a president has been asked to exceed the usual two-year term. Two vice-presidents have been elected, Mr Chris Ball, managing director, Unigate Dairy Holdings, and Mr Jim McMichael-Phillips, general manager, Co-operative Wholesale Society's Milk Group. Miss Caroline Bartram, Mr Derek Allen, Mr Martyr Baker, Mr John W King and Mr O'Connell have been appointed directors of Guardian Royal Exchange. Mr David Prosser is to be managing director, industrial finance within the investment department of the National Coal Board Pension Funds. Mr Jonathan Thornton becomes deputy managing director, industrial finance, Mr Barry Southcott director, equity investment, with a responsibility for the funds' quoted ordinary share portfolios; Mr Peter Hill deputy director, equity investment; and Mr Dan Nathanson, manager gifts and treasury. Mr Robert Maxwell, a director of Select TV, has agreed to act as chairman. He replaces Mr Mark Sheldermine, who has resigned as chairman and director to concentrate on London Films, of which he is chairman, though he will retain his investment in Select TV.

Five-star hotels lose their staying power as construction costs rise



Standing forlorn on London's South Bank, close to Blackfriars Bridge, is the shell of a hotel. It has been standing there for the best part of a decade and for years carried a huge for sale sign from Knight Frank & Rutley, estate agents. King's Reach Hotel never made it as a commercial enterprise and the final nail was driven into its coffin six weeks ago when the Environment Secretary, then Mr Michael Heseltine, approved an application by its new owners, Sea Containers, to convert it into more than 500,000 sq ft of offices. The King's Reach was built by the now defunct Melia-Buckley consortium in the early 1970s when hotel building, aided by Government grants, was all the rage. But industry observers comment that it never had a chance. Look, they say, at the Tower Hotel at St Katharine's Dock which, after years of struggling, is only now making a profit. The Environment Secretary's decision to grant change of use on King's Reach, against local opposition but to the satisfaction of the owners, illustrates a big upheaval in the London and provincial hotel industry. Today, few hoteliers are determined enough to build new properties in the capital and other big cities. Since the industry's boom days when grants were freely available to satisfy a tidal wave of tourists, building costs have escalated to the point when construction is almost uneconomic. Today, few hoteliers are determined enough to build new properties in the capital and other big cities. Since the industry's boom days when grants were freely available to satisfy a tidal wave of tourists, building costs have escalated to the point when construction is almost uneconomic. Today, few hoteliers are determined enough to build new properties in the capital and other big cities. Since the industry's boom days when grants were freely available to satisfy a tidal wave of tourists, building costs have escalated to the point when construction is almost uneconomic.

GM quickly realized its range of properties was too diverse and rationalization made sense. Last January the group decided to dispose of as many as 10 hotels, but did not reveal which were to go. As an executive put it at the time: "We are hanging out the washing and seeing what comes along." What actually came along was quite surprising. Some 26 of GM's provincial hotels were snapped up by the Queens Moat Houses chain headed by Mr John Bairstrow in a deal worth £30m. The deal took the GM Country Hotels division off the late Sir Maxwell Joseph's hands and more than doubled the size of Queens Moat. Apart from the main tranche of properties acquired by Queens Moat, occasional sales have taken place since then such as the purchase of the London International by the Vaux Breweries subsidiary, Swallow Hotels, for £7.7m. But since last winter there has been a more subtle change in the hotel market. A stronger secondary market for hotel properties has been established as some of the larger groups offload their less desirable buildings.

Many of the hotels being built or remodelled today are very different from the bedroom factories of the 1970s. Now there is a concentration on providing leisure facilities to attract the weekend tourist market and the all-important conference market. Trusthouse Forte's Posthouse chain is an excellent example of this changing approach, Mr Lepard says. Strangely, as one of the main luxury hotel groups, Trusthouse is noticeable by its absence from agents' sale circulars. Reports that the group is planning to dispose of a number of two and three-star establishments has been denied by the company, although a fortnight ago THF disposed of £19m worth of properties to the Mount Charlotte group. Reports that as many as 43 properties are up for sale is wide of the mark. Instead, it would appear that between five and 10 hotels are being quietly marketed. But for the smaller hotels are almost certainly going to be from one of the Asian groups, which are regarded as a big force in the London hotel market as they quietly establish small chains of well-run two and three star hotels aimed at the volume end of the market.

offer the chance of a good cash business that makes money. In the provinces the pattern is different. Small country hotels are being acquired by individuals, in the main, who are entering the hotel and catering business for the first time. But the centre of the hotel business remains firmly in the capital where, according to Mr Jonathan Boddler of consultants Horwath and Horwath, occupancy levels show a distinct improvement. Mr Boddler believes the weaker pound is starting to bring Americans back to London and any upturn in the economy will benefit the hotel industry here. In spite of the changing economic conditions there has been a radical shift in the approach to hotel-keeping and development, according to Mr Lepard. "Hotels which are being built or remodelled today are very different from the bedroom factories of the 1970s. Now there is a concentration on providing leisure facilities to attract the weekend tourist market and the all-important conference market. Trusthouse Forte's Posthouse chain is an excellent example of this changing approach, Mr Lepard says. Strangely, as one of the main luxury hotel groups, Trusthouse is noticeable by its absence from agents' sale circulars. Reports that the group is planning to dispose of a number of two and three-star establishments has been denied by the company, although a fortnight ago THF disposed of £19m worth of properties to the Mount Charlotte group. Reports that as many as 43 properties are up for sale is wide of the mark. Instead, it would appear that between five and 10 hotels are being quietly marketed. But for the smaller hotels are almost certainly going to be from one of the Asian groups, which are regarded as a big force in the London hotel market as they quietly establish small chains of well-run two and three star hotels aimed at the volume end of the market.

C. Gordon Tether Combating 'a crisis of contraction'

It is a matter of relief that the United States has now accepted that, having played a big part in engineering those processes that have brought the world to the brink of economic disaster, it ought to take the lead in organizing the urgently-needed rescue operation. But it has to be recognized that its attempt to get other countries to join it in performing a locomotive function for global economic recovery comes so late in the day that it may be able to do little more than slow the onward march of the recession. Mr Boddler believes the weaker pound is starting to bring Americans back to London and any upturn in the economy will benefit the hotel industry here. In spite of the changing economic conditions there has been a radical shift in the approach to hotel-keeping and development, according to Mr Lepard. "Hotels which are being built or remodelled today are very different from the bedroom factories of the 1970s. Now there is a concentration on providing leisure facilities to attract the weekend tourist market and the all-important conference market. Trusthouse Forte's Posthouse chain is an excellent example of this changing approach, Mr Lepard says. Strangely, as one of the main luxury hotel groups, Trusthouse is noticeable by its absence from agents' sale circulars. Reports that the group is planning to dispose of a number of two and three-star establishments has been denied by the company, although a fortnight ago THF disposed of £19m worth of properties to the Mount Charlotte group. Reports that as many as 43 properties are up for sale is wide of the mark. Instead, it would appear that between five and 10 hotels are being quietly marketed. But for the smaller hotels are almost certainly going to be from one of the Asian groups, which are regarded as a big force in the London hotel market as they quietly establish small chains of well-run two and three star hotels aimed at the volume end of the market.

react with further contraction and deflation is something that ought to be strongly resisted. For if, as it put it, each country retreats inward through an impulse toward self-preservation, we shall only worsen our collective and individual condition. Yet the fact has to be faced that it is much easier to place such restraint than to practise it. The annual capacity of the developing countries to import has fallen by about \$100,000m over the past two years as a result of the decline in their export revenues, the rise in their debt service payment and the falling-off in the flow of private capital. With the creditors breathing down their necks, and the international financial institutions pressing them to stabilize their economies, how can they do other than try to achieve equivalent savings in imports until their fortunes have manifestly turned a marked turn for the better? A change of direction on the part of the pace-setting countries of the kind Washington is now belatedly calling for would obviously help to set in motion processes that could eventually reduce the almost irresistible pressures that so many countries are under to "retreat inward". But it will take time to make itself felt even if there is no delay in putting it into effect - which is itself far from certain. Solutions The stark reality that has to be faced in the interim is that as the Brandt Commission expressed it, "the magnitude of the problem the crisis or contraction is throwing up dwarfs the magnitude of the practicable solutions". In other words, we have no assurance that, when all the available "stops" have been pulled out, IMF quotas increased, World Bank lending liberalized, special release made of SDRs, debt repayment obligations waived and so on - that crisis will not continue to roll on remorselessly. The moral, surely, is that we now have to start considering "impracticable solutions". © The News Agency Ltd., 1983

Table with multiple columns containing financial data, including 'Authorized Units & Insurance Funds' and various company names and figures.



The firmer pound caught dealers on the hop yesterday as share prices recovered from a nervous start prompted by the decision of the market bears to wind up their positions.

Even the disappointing interim figures from Royal Electronics and subsequent warning on second-half profits failed to cast a shadow. The market which had been looking for profits of £130m for the year has now downgraded the figure to around £115m.

The rest of the electrical sector was also marked lower with Plessey 20p down at 60p, although GEC closed unchanged at 204p after touching 194p earlier.

The FT Index closed 6.8 up at 621.6, wiping out all of Tuesday's fall stemming from

Firm pound lifts shares

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 17. Dealings End, Jan 28. Settlement Day, Jan 31.

the pound fluctuations on the foreign exchange.

ICI continued to respond positively to Rowe & Pitman's recent upgrading with the price adding a further 8p to 378p.

Shares of the Glasgow-based textile group, Scott & Robertson, have leapt from 32p to a new high 43p this week following the reverse takeover of Plastic Covers. S & R paid £891,000 in cash and issued 2.61 million shares giving a 503 an ounce before closing at \$495.75.

Gold shares also sparked a bullion price crossed the important \$500-level first thing to \$503 an ounce before closing at \$495.75.

The holding companies were caught short of stock as Middle East and Barlow Rand 24p to 644p.

Also in textiles Mellins rebounded 13p to 163p, despite the group's assurances yesterday that it was planning only a small United Kingdom acquisition.

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The market is still hoping the group may be on the

verge of a major trading agreement arranged by the newly appointed chairman, Mr Tomker Subeyman.

Meanwhile, shares of Mr Robert Maxwell's BPC advanced 5p to a new high of 105p after agreement with the workforce to implement his plans for the group's gravure division. Select TV, which has just appointed Mr Maxwell chairman, also joined in the fun with a 6p rise to 34p.

This week's newcomer Micron continued to make headway with the shares adding another 20p to 368p compared with the placing price of 190p set on Monday.

Last year's share of the year, London & Liverpool, which showed no inclination to rest on its laurels as the price rose another 24p to 401p.

Oil shares rallied from yesterday's setback caused by uncertainty over the ability of members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to reach agreement over pricing and production levels at this weekend's conference. BP rose 6p to 326p along with Shell 4p to 436p.

Table with columns: BRITISH FUNDS, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

Table with columns: COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

Table with columns: LOCAL AUTHORITIES, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

Table with columns: DOLLAR STOCKS, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

Table with columns: BANKS AND DISCOUNTS, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

Table with columns: BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

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Table with columns: RECENT ISSUES, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

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Table with columns: SHIPPING, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

Table with columns: MINES, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

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Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

Table with columns: Market rates, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months.

Money Market Rates

Table with columns: Clearing Banks, Discount, Treasury Bills, Local Authority Bonds.

Other Markets

Table with columns: Australia, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, USA, West Germany, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Dollar Spot Rates

Table with columns: Australia, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, USA, West Germany, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

INSURANCE

Table with columns: Axa, Allianz, Aviva, British Overseas, Commercial Union, etc.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table with columns: Alliance, Anglo, British, etc.

RUBBER

Table with columns: Borneo, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table with columns: etc.

REVENUES AND DISTILLERIES

Table with columns: etc.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Table with columns: etc.

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CRICKET: ENGLAND MUST FIGHT BACK IN WORLD SERIES CUP

Odds lengthen against England reaching final

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Sydney
England need New Zealand in the Benson and Hedges World Series Cup...



Chappell now rarely conquers with his Excalibur

ago he filled in five innings out of six. Against England in the recent Ashes series he scored two centuries. Yet, in five of his last six innings, he made only 55 runs.

Cricket was more leisurely in my day, Dexter says
A man who always played the game and had time to smell the flowers

DAVID MILLER

You will have noticed, I am sure, that recent echoes from the past, a stirring of memories as with an old Gene Kelly film on a wet Sunday afternoon...

Leisurely

The sudden reminder of the style Dexter, whose technique with either bat or club was always more fluid than that of the batsman...

They say that sometimes Lord Ted, as the popular papers dubbed him, gave his wicket lightly...

His discernment of the problems today derives in part from a much more aware self-analysis than would have been expected of someone so spontaneous both at the crease and on the tee.

Fiji invite England touring side

Suva (Reuter) - England have been invited to play at the end of the year in Fiji on a tour to New Zealand...

SA venture pays its way

Port Elizabeth (AP) - The West Indian cricket team has paid for a comfortable 85 runs yesterday...

Kent out of pocket

Kent County Cricket Club made a loss last year of £30,000 compared to a profit of £1,597 the year before...



Dexter spans the years with bat and club

Sarfraz settles series in Pakistan's favour

Hyderabad (Reuter) - Sarfraz Nawaz, Pakistan's fast medium bowler, destroyed the Indian batting line-up yesterday...

Boxing New £100,000 offer to Bugner and Bruno

Bert McCarty, a boxing promoter, is offering £100,000 for a contest between Joe Bugner, the former European heavyweight champion...

Badminton Travers is given a dual role

Scotland have been forced to make a late change in their team to meet the Netherlands at Inverness today in the annual match for the Phillips Silver Shuttle...

Athletics Jones likely to miss marathon

High Jones' injury problems have been aggravated by an accident on holiday and it now looks unlikely that he will defend his title in the London Marathon on April 7...

Queen's Bench Division

Assessing damages for selling hired car
On June 11, 1979, Mr Raymond had leased his Rolls-Royce car to Mr Vigns for a term of one year...

Law Report January 20 1983

Edwards had finally admitted liability but had named a number of conditions with regard to quantum of damages...

Divisional Court

One owner vehicle had five keepers
Regina v South Western Justices, Ex parte Wandsworth London Borough Council...

Divisional Court

Following complaints by him, the local authority, Wandsworth London Borough Council, brought proceedings under section 11(1)(h) of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968...

La crème de la crème

Executive Secretary to MD and Director of Finance c£8,000

Factory Mutual International is the London Head Office of an international industrial property insurance company. It is the international associate of the long established Factory Mutual System in the U.S.

We have a vacancy for a Secretary to our MD and Director of Finance.

This demands a high standard of audio secretarial skills. It will attract someone who can bring flair to the job and who has the experience and personal qualities to communicate at a senior level in a professional although informal environment.

Benefits include 75p/day LVs, interest free Season Ticket Loan and Flextime.

Please contact Sheila Warren, F M Insurance Co Ltd, Southside, 105 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QT. Tel: 01-828 7799.

Factory Mutual International

GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR SW6 requires Secretary/P.A.

Licence holder minimum age 25. Usual board level Secretarial responsibility including chauffeurs. Lots of energy for long working hours, and confidence to entertain and assist clients in Director absence. Friendly shop fitting company with plenty of intragroup liaison and absorbing position for a dedicated personality. Start March 1st.

Mrs Watson 01-736-1391 (No Agencies)

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY/PA

Required by a busy life assurance company with the ability to administer two broker sales regions in a very busy office. Secretarial skills, appearance and background must be of the highest level combined with tact and initiative.

Salary negotiable. Applications with full C.V. to Mr G M Shaw, TARGET LIFE, 7-9, Beacons Buildings, London, EC4A 1EV.

MD's SECRETARY £8,000

Senior Secretary aged 29/45 with good skills (11/10/80) and fluency in French. Administration in a very busy office. Superior office close to Grosvenor Park.

PA ADVTG £7,500

Young SH Sec, aged 21/25 to act as PA to a busy and progressive agency. Experience of advertising and public relations. Excellent opportunity to work with a dynamic team.

CLERICAL ASSISTANT £5,500+

An ideal opening for someone educated to 'A' level and preferably a graduate, who has a financial training. The major American banks are in the City need such a person for a new branch.

DeMain CONSULTANTS LTD

French-Swiss Border BILINGUAL SECRETARY

Secretary with fluent French is needed to work for the Managing Director and the Personal Director of this major American international company in a picturesque old town on the French/Swiss border. A knowledge of German is an advantage as is French shorthand. Relocation expenses and a good salary will be paid to the successful candidate. Speaks 100/60. Age 22-32.

Angela Mortimer Ltd

66 Finsbury 999 9636

£8,000 SW1

Considerable MD of highly successful public company requires top class Sec/PA who is prepared to use audio more than shorthand. In return, every opportunity will be given to use your administrative skills to the full. Apart from being a non-smoker it is essential to have a warm personality and a sense of humour.

STELLA FISHER

110 Strand WC2 01-836 6644

WEST END PROPERTY TO £7,500

The owner of this prestigious company seeks a top class Sec/PA who will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. A good salary and benefits package is offered.

Bernadette of Bond St.

01-828 1264

INSURANCE + TYPING

Partner in expanding W1 Co. requires mature PA/Sec with experience in taxes, pensions and preferably mortgage and charity insurance administration. Shorthand/typing skills essential. Start as temporary then go permanent. Salary c. £7,500 + substantial benefits.

Kingsway Temporary Staff Consultants

415-417 Oxford Street, London W1 (Opposite Selfridges) 01-428 3863

Graduate Opportunity £6,750

An opportunity for a recently qualified graduate with good level academic grades to work in a dynamic and exciting environment. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. A good salary and benefits package is offered.

Elizabeth Hunt RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

18 Grosvenor Street London W1 telephone 01-499 8070

SECRETARIES

For Mayfair and surrounding area - just the Kingsway centre and search company requires an excellent salary in 1983. Urgent work available now.

KINGSWAY temporary staff consultants

BERKELEY SQUARE W1

Secretary required for Senior Executive. Age 24-27. Own office. Good shorthand. Career opportunity. No ties. Commencing salary £7,500. Telephone 499 5522.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO CONSERVATIVE MEP

University Degree. Age 25-40. Good shorthand/typing. Fluency in a major European language. Occasional travel. Office in London.

MP's Secretary

Young Tory MP seeks experienced Secretary. Hours flexible. 219 3544

SECRETARY/P.A.

For Mayfair and surrounding area - just the Kingsway centre and search company requires an excellent salary in 1983. Urgent work available now.

SECRETARY Arabic Speaking PA

Circle £7,500 + Mortgage. Progressive international City-based Bank seeks a well educated and career conscious PA to assist a small, dynamic and self-contained team in the private clients area. User friendly and associated with the banking profession. Please telephone Mrs. ZARAN HAY ASSOCIATES, 4 Broad Street, West, Bristol BS1 2ET.

ITALIAN/FRENCH/ENGLISH SECRETARY TRANSLATOR

For leading international photo agency near St John's Wood tube. Salary £7,680. Call Chris Watkins 01-586 3322.

SECRETARY £8,000

West End firm of General Accountants seeks a Secretary prepared to work on own initiative. Excellent salary and benefits. Short-hand/Audio non-smoker preferred. Salary £7,000 +. Telephone 01-409 0040

SECRETARY/PA.

To organise small office in Mayfair for property company. Excellent salary and benefits. Short-hand/Audio non-smoker preferred. Salary £7,000 +. Telephone 01-409 0040

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON SECRETARY TO BUILDINGS OFFICER

An experienced Secretary is required for Kings College Building Officer and his staff (shorthand) and to assist in the successful running of the Buildings Office in a wide range of duties which will require the ability to work without close supervision in addition to working as a member of a team. Preferred candidates will have a knowledge of buildings terminology, would be useful but not essential. Four weeks salary on scale £9,718.82 per annum including £1,000.00 for pension and cover details at 31/12/82. Applications should be sent to: Mr. J. G. COLEMAN, King's College, London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS (closing reference 242095).

Medically Minded £7,500

Our client a W1 trading company seeks a PA/Secretary to their very busy office. The successful candidate must be a friendly person with a friendly outgoing disposition, to provide an efficient PA support. Very smart office, 100/500 state needed.

Elizabeth Hunt RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

18 Grosvenor Street London W1 Telephone 01-499 8070

Super Secretaries

CJES

25 New South Street London EC2M 3JH Tel: 01-583 3538 or 01-583 3576

JUNIOR SECRETARY

City £5,000-£6,000

We are looking for well-educated junior secretaries with good secretarial skills to join a leading firm of international management recruitment consultants. The successful candidate will receive full professional support to a senior position, which includes arranging appointments, maintaining records and telephone liaison with candidates and clients. Friendly offices near Liverpool Street. Free B.U.P.A. pension scheme and the successful candidate will receive a generous salary of £5,000-£6,000. Applications under reference 3575/77, to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED

100 New Street, London EC2A 3TE

SECRETARY TO ENGINEERING MANAGER

£6,500 p.a.

A small but expanding N.W. London company involved in the energy industry requires a Secretary to its Engineering Manager. The successful applicant will have been educated to a level standard or equivalent & will have proven secretarial skills (good shorthand essential). This is a busy job offering varied & demanding work and the ability to work both under pressure & on one's own initiative is essential. Please apply in writing to Mrs. Diane Cooper, Plesch Engineering Ltd, 118-122 College Road, Harrow, Middx.

SECRETARY - P.R.

£5,500 21-25 years

A major public company requires a high calibre young secretary to work on a "1-1" basis with their P.R. Manager. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in Public Relations, a good shorthand typist, and a good knowledge of the company's products and services. Excellent fringe benefits and career opportunities.

TRAINING PARTNER'S SECRETARY £5,500

An excellent opportunity to enter the world of staff training by joining a major international training company. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in Public Relations, a good shorthand typist, and a good knowledge of the company's products and services. Excellent fringe benefits and career opportunities.

OVERSEAS CHALLENGE

Owner/Managing Director of a multi-national office of a company is looking for a devoted professional to handle the day to day running of the office. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in Public Relations, a good shorthand typist, and a good knowledge of the company's products and services. Excellent fringe benefits and career opportunities.

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY Croydon area

Buy private company requires bright vibrant Secretary with good all-round skills. You will need to use your own initiative and have a good knowledge of French or Italian. Salary £5,000.

MacBlain NASH Recruitment Consultants

11 Haver Square, London W1

SECRETARY TO MARKETING DIRECTOR

Head office of a leading and fast growing firm of Creative Services and Agencies, require a responsible secretary to the Marketing Director. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in Public Relations, a good shorthand typist, and a good knowledge of the company's products and services. Excellent fringe benefits and career opportunities.

HOUSE OF LORDS

Experienced Personal Secretary required for the House of Lords. Good conditions and holidays. Applications forms from: Establishment Office, House of Lords, Wellington, London SW1P 3JL. Telephone 01-219 3165

SOTHEBY'S

With French and English shorthand required for both of independent Picture Department. Candidates must have good skills, be willing to do more studio work and be well organized. Age 23+. Salary negotiable. Please apply to: Mrs. S. S. SOTHEBY, 100 Strand, London WC2R 2LS

PARIS

US Financial Services Company, located in the centre of Paris, is looking for a dynamic English Speaking Secretary to its Paris office. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in Public Relations, a good shorthand typist, and a good knowledge of the company's products and services. Excellent fringe benefits and career opportunities.

DIRECTOR'S PA £8,000

A major West End Public Company requires a Secretary to its Director. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in Public Relations, a good shorthand typist, and a good knowledge of the company's products and services. Excellent fringe benefits and career opportunities.

MacBlain NASH Recruitment Consultants

11 Haver Square, London W1

SECRETARY/PA

For International Trading and Commodity Co. Excellent skills (120/50) and ability to work without supervision. Languages an asset. Hours 10-6. LVs. Salary negotiable. Contact Mr Pyne 01-250 3322.

PA/SECRETARY

Required for a small Public Relations Department where the successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in Public Relations, a good shorthand typist, and a good knowledge of the company's products and services. Excellent fringe benefits and career opportunities.

MacBlain NASH Recruitment Consultants

11 Haver Square, London W1

Appointments

Wide Business Experience?

Use it to help others grow

Business people with substantial commercial experience are needed for a team of similarly qualified professionals, helping others to establish and develop small businesses. The problems range across the entire spectrum of commercial activity and provide the opportunities to contribute experience and expertise in a positive and rewarding way.

The work is designed to be more vocational than a pure source of income, and to occupy only 2 or 3 days a week. It should appeal most of all to those between 56 and 65 who are anxious to remain active. Modest fees (at present £25 a day) are paid together with travelling expenses.

Vacancies occur from time to time throughout England and there are some currently available in London and the South East.

Applicants with high level management experience in cost and management accounting, or in marketing, are particularly required. They should be car owners, hold a current driving licence and be in good health. All suitably qualified applicants will receive careful consideration.

For further details, please contact: Josephine Cook, Department of Industry, Small Firms Division (T), Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1 who will send further information and an application form.

The closing date for applications (in writing) is 11th February.

Small Firms Service

INFORMATION AND COUNSELLING

A service by the Department of Industry

Small Firms Service

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Secretary/PA

BUPA Hospitals is a young Company, part of the BUPA family, formed to plan, build and manage independent hospitals throughout the country. Already four hospitals are operational and a number of others are being built.

As senior secretary in the Planning Department you would be personally responsible for the work of two managers while also running the office and supervising the work of another secretary.

It's a job that offers responsibility as well as variety and calls for a well qualified secretary with excellent shorthand/typing, a mature outlook, plenty of initiative and the ability to take on a supervisory role.

We offer an attractive starting salary (to be reviewed in April and then again after 6 months) plus a wide range of benefits. Free BUPA mortgage subsidy, pension scheme, free life insurance, season ticket loan scheme, subsidised restaurant as well as LVs, and a convenient location in modern, well appointed offices close to Kings Cross station.

Send a detailed CV as soon as possible to: Alison Dawson, Personnel Manager, BUPA Hospitals, Battle Bridge House, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1 8DU. Tel: 01-837 6484.

BUPA Hospitals

SECRETARY TO VICE-CHAIRMAN

Booker McConnell PLC is an international group comprising several divisions, operating in diverse business sectors in the UK and overseas, with a sales turnover approaching £1 billion.

We are looking for a senior secretary to the Vice-Chairman, who also has some board responsibility for finance. Located in our small, modern City head office opposite Cannon St. B.U.P.A. stations and close to the Bank underground, you will also work for the Group Financial Controller and other senior executives.

The job calls for a mature, confident and discreet person, probably aged 30+. Educated to 'A' level or equivalent, you must have at least 3 years' experience of senior level, accurate shorthand, typing and audio skills, and be willing to learn word-processing operation.

A competitive salary is offered, other benefits include 22 working days holiday per year, 60p LVs per day, interest-free season ticket loan, contributory pension scheme.

Please write enclosing a CV, or telephone for an application form, to: Anne Hiddell, Booker McConnell PLC, Beckersley House, 83 Cannon Street, London EC4N 3EL. Telephone: 01-248 9051.

BOOKER MCCONNELL PLC

PA/Secretary/Organiser

required for small integrated group of companies involved in commodity trading/precious metal dealing and associated aspects of the investment field. Based in Hatton Garden the job is demanding and rewarding. Responsibility will be to the Directors of each Company within the Group. The successful applicant will be assisted by two female members of staff currently employed and trained. Experience of a similar position would be desirable. Salary and benefits by negotiation.

Full CV to Box 0963H The Times

Ann Warrington

(Social Contact)

PERSONAL SEC

To Chairman £7,700 + benefits

Dynamic and dependable PA will assist the busy and smooth running of a major international company. This personal VP role is a challenging and rewarding job. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in Public Relations, a good shorthand typist, and a good knowledge of the company's products and services. Excellent fringe benefits and career opportunities.

Please write enclosing a CV, or telephone for an application form, to: Ann Warrington, 628 4200, The City Office Centre 4/6, Copehall Avenue EC1

SECRETARY/PA

The London W1 To £8,500

The Managing Director of this fast growing and highly successful executive recruitment and search company requires a responsible, self-motivated person to assist him as his Secretary/PA. You will need to possess first class shorthand and typing skills and be able and willing to work on your own initiative and with the minimum of supervision. Ideal age range would be between 25 and 35.

A starting salary of up to £8,500 is offered plus additional benefits.

For further details please telephone 01-437 8343 and speak to the Managing Director.

TOP LEGAL SECRETARY

Audio/Shorthand Secretary required for partner in busy West End Solicitors. Must be experienced in conveying and possess fast and accurate shorthand and typing skills. There is an excellent salary for the right person with 30p LVs per day. This position would be particularly suitable for someone willing to work overseas.

Please telephone Mrs. C. Sampson on 01-323 4751.

SECRETARIES

For Mayfair and surrounding area - just the Kingsway centre and search company requires an excellent salary in 1983. Urgent work available now.

KINGSWAY temporary staff consultants

BERKELEY SQUARE W1

Secretary required for Senior Executive. Age 24-27. Own office. Good shorthand. Career opportunity. No ties. Commencing salary £7,500. Telephone 499 5522.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO CONSERVATIVE MEP

University Degree. Age 25-40. Good shorthand/typing. Fluency in a major European language. Occasional travel. Office in London.

MP's Secretary

Young Tory MP seeks experienced Secretary. Hours flexible. 219 3544

SECRETARY/P.A.

For Mayfair and surrounding area - just the Kingsway centre and search company requires an excellent salary in 1983. Urgent work available now.

SECRETARY Arabic Speaking PA

Circle £7,500 + Mortgage. Progressive international City-based Bank seeks a well educated and career conscious PA to assist a small, dynamic and self-contained team in the private clients area. User friendly and associated with the banking profession. Please telephone Mrs. ZARAN HAY ASSOCIATES, 4 Broad Street, West, Bristol BS1 2ET.

ITALIAN/FRENCH/ENGLISH SECRETARY TRANSLATOR

For leading international photo agency near St John's Wood tube. Salary £7,680. Call Chris Watkins 01-586 3322.

SECRETARY £8,000

West End firm of General Accountants seeks a Secretary prepared to work on own initiative. Excellent salary and benefits. Short-hand/Audio non-smoker preferred. Salary £7,000 +. Telephone 01-409 0040

SECRETARY/PA.

To organise small office in Mayfair for property company. Excellent salary and benefits. Short-hand/Audio non-smoker preferred. Salary £7,000 +. Telephone 01-409 0040

Legal Secretary

Beaux SW13. Full-time experienced legal secretary required for Senior Partner. Pleasant working conditions. Salary up to £7,000 for the right applicant. Please telephone 01-731 3665 after 7pm

PA/Sec to MD

Book Publishing Covent Gdn Minimum 3 years' experience necessary and an ability to work on own initiative essential. Ring Kate Day on 01-836 7863

PARIS

US Financial Services Company, located in the centre of Paris, is looking for a dynamic English Speaking Secretary to its Paris office. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in Public Relations, a good shorthand typist, and a good knowledge of the company's products and services. Excellent fringe benefits and career opportunities.</

Educational, Careers and Re-training

Inner London Education Authority
Chief Inspector
Salary £26,307-£29,088
Inclusive of £1,284 London Weighting Allowance

THE KING'S SCHOOL
CANTERBURY
BURSAR
The Bursarship becomes vacant at the end of the present academic year...

GCE IN 1983?
ENROL NOW for departmental courses and careers after 17 and 18 years of age...

David Watson's
(Tutorial College)
Offers individual tuition in G.C.E. O & A levels...

THE GIRLS' PUBLIC DAY SCHOOL TRUST
SHEFFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
10 Rutland Park, Sheffield, S10 2PE

HEAD
The successful candidate to take up the headship in September 1983...

THE GIRLS' PUBLIC DAY SCHOOL TRUST
PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL
Kent Road, Southsea, Hampshire PO5 3EG

HEAD
which will become vacant from 1st January 1984, upon the appointment of the present Headmistress to Bromley High School (GPDST).

MILEFIELD JUNIOR SCHOOL (Edgarley Hall)
Co-Educational 404 pupils and 60 teachers
Age range 7 to 13 years

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES FOR SEPTEMBER 1983
Giving a percentage reduction on standard fees which will normally continue when a pupil transfers to the Senior School.

TONBRIDGE SCHOOL SENIOR CHAPLAIN
Applications are invited for the post of Senior Chaplain of Tonbridge School...

GRESHAM'S SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS
To be held on 24th, 25th and 26th February, 1983
THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIPS ARE OFFERED:

THE QUEEN'S SECRETARIAL COLLEGE
Offers full time secretarial courses for 16-18 year olds
ST GEORGE'S COLLEGE
Offers full time secretarial courses for 16-18 year olds

HORIZONS
The Times Guide to careers training

Professional people need help too

Edward Fennell on a career counselling service for chemists
About half of his individual clients are people who have been made jobless. The remainder are either newly-qualified graduates trying to get a toehold in the employment market...

When the boilerman joins the Bench

John Muir looks at employees who have active roles outside work
It is widely accepted that management here used in a general sense to cover management of community activities...

University Appointments

Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
TWO CHAIRS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE
Applications are invited from suitable persons for appointment to Chairs of Psychological Medicine as follows:

European University Institute Florence

The department of political and social sciences invites applications for a chair in comparative social research on Western Europe.

UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE
PROFESSOR OF PHARMACY
The University invites applications for the post of Professor of Pharmacy, vacant on the retirement of Professor J. B. Sierak and his translation to a research professorship.

University of Nottingham Medical School
RESEARCH OFFICER
Applications are invited from graduates in relevant fields, such as statistics, bio-mathematics or the behavioural sciences, for the post of Research Officer.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
LOCAL EXAMINATIONS SYNDICATE
Applications are invited from Physics graduates for the post of Assistant to the Secretary...

ALDENHAM SCHOOL
The Governors of Aldenham School invite applications for the post of Headmaster, which will become vacant at the end of August 1983.

BEAVER COLLEGE
American University Programme
Seeks graduates to assist with student housing and student services.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL
APPOINTMENT TO THE VICE-CHANCELLORSHIP
The University has appointed a Joint Committee of Council and Senate to make a recommendation for an appointment to the Vice-Chancellorship from 1st October 1984.

CAMBRIDGE
The Leys School
The Leys is to open a Sixth Form House for girls in September 1984, and applications are invited for the post of Housemistress...

University of Nottingham
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ECONOMICS
Applications are invited for the post of LECTURER

1983 - YOUR CRUCIAL YEAR?
8-14 years: Advice for parents on schools, progress, etc.
15-24 years: Career Guidance, courses, training, work, changes
25-34 years: Career Development, promotion, improvements
35-54 years: Review, Redundancy, 2nd careers, new horizons

University of Birmingham
FACULTY OF COMMERCE AND SOCIAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
NATWEST RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN MONEY AND BANKING

North Western Universities
DIRECTOR OF O AND M UNIT
Applications are invited for the post of Director of the North Western Universities' O and M Unit...

University of London
INSTITUTE OF MAIN AREA STUDIES (United States)
The Institute offers a one-year course leading to the degree of MA in the Social Sciences...

Monash University Australia
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
LECTURER CONTINUING
Applicants with a higher degree in electrical engineering and experience in power systems are invited for the post of Lecturer in Continuing Education...

University of Liverpool
LECTURER IN MATERIALS
Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in the Department of Metallurgy and Materials Science.

St. Michael's School, Limsfield
HEAD
The Headship of St. Michael's School, Limsfield, an Anglican boarding and day school for girls from 8-18, is vacant from 1st September 1983.

University of Hong Kong
SENIOR LECTURESHIPS/LECTURERSHIPS IN LAW
Applications are invited for posts of Senior Lecturer or Lecturer in the School of Law.

The University of Sheffield
SCHOOL OF CLINICAL DENTISTRY
LECTURER
Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in the School of Clinical Dentistry.

University of London
INSTITUTE OF MAIN AREA STUDIES (United States)
The Institute offers a one-year course leading to the degree of MA in the Social Sciences...

Brunei University
DEPARTMENT OF LAW
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Applications are invited for the post of LECTURER IN LAW.

St. Michael's School, Limsfield
HEAD
The Headship of St. Michael's School, Limsfield, an Anglican boarding and day school for girls from 8-18, is vacant from 1st September 1983.

Public Notices
MANNERING ADVERTISING LIMITED
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 203 of the Companies Act 1948 that a Meeting of the Creditors of Mannering Advertising Limited...

LEGAL NOTICES
JACK WALLER & SON Limited T/A
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 203 of the Companies Act 1948 that a Meeting of the Creditors of Jack Waller & Son Limited...

LEGAL NOTICES
In the matter of the Companies Act 1948, notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named company without a meeting of the creditors...

LEGAL NOTICES
COUPLE REQUIRED Gardener and wife to work as housekeeper. Residential post, hours as experienced with references. Tel 025-485 240.

LEGAL NOTICES
RELIABLE CARPENTERS sought to do all types of high quality joinery. Work done on time. Tel 025-485 240.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

JUST LOOK AT THESE PRICES!

Table listing holiday destinations and prices: ALICANTE FROM £89 RETURN, MALAGA FROM £89 RETURN, PALMA FROM £89 RETURN, FARE FROM £79 RETURN, NICE FROM £89 RETURN, CORFU FROM £89 RETURN.

SKI BEST VALUE IN VERBIER

AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF BARGAIN JANUARY/FEBRUARY PRICES. * Staffed chalet holidays departing 22/29 January 1 week £145 p.p. 2 weeks £209 p.p. Air/chalet inclusive of 3 meals a day with wine and coffee at dinner.

SKI TIGNES AMAZING VALUE

JAN Availability from £115. * Return to base. * Full board. * Lifts. * Equipment. * Insurance and video.

LOW COST FLIGHTS

NAIROBI, JUBA, HARARE, LISAKA, DAR W. AFRICA, CAIRO, ADDIS ABABA, MALI, MALI EAST, FAR EAST, TOKYO, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, SOUTH AMERICA, AFRICAN TRAVEL LTD., 317 Grand Boulevard, New York, N.Y. 10017.

UP, UP AND AWAY

Reliable flights and lowest prices to: JERUSALEM, NAIROBI, HARARE, LISAKA, DAR W. AFRICA, CAIRO, ADDIS ABABA, MALI, MALI EAST, FAR EAST, TOKYO, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, SOUTH AMERICA, AFRICAN TRAVEL LTD., 317 Grand Boulevard, New York, N.Y. 10017.

BEAUTIFUL BRITAIN

Selected Villas & Apts to let at very reasonable rates. For brochure Tel: 01-262 1555 or 01-262 3291. 210666. Low Rd., Crowland, Peterborough.

FLIGHTS TO MALAGA

Tenerife, Palma and most of Europe from £29. 239 Val de Vere and experience our superb room, FREE wine and music. Call 01-262 1555.

INSTANT SKI BARGAINS

Travel by air, sleeper coach, ski, drive or independent. All the silver miles, private jets and ski centres. Tel: 01-262 1555.

FOR SALE

TOPS TV SALE starts today - colossal range of televisions. Tel: 01-262 1555.

RESITA CARPETS

Wool blends, Carpets, Rugs, Mats. Tel: 01-262 1555.

CITY LIVING

At its best. Battered, but best. Under-rented. For further details, phone The Barbican Estate Office. Tel: 01-262 1555.

FAMILY HOUSE, ISLINGTON

Delightful, recently renovated and fully furnished. Tel: 01-262 1555.

MOBILE HOME

Mobile Home for sale, fully fitted, ground rent for 1983 paid, £4,000. Deventry 3468.

Chestertons

ESSEX SQUARE, W2. 4 bed, 4 bath, flat in a prime location. Tel: 01-262 1555.

UPPER MERIS, W2

Spacious, 3 bed, 3 bath, house in a prime location. Tel: 01-262 1555.

UPPER MERIS, W2

Spacious, 3 bed, 3 bath, house in a prime location. Tel: 01-262 1555.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON ASSOCIATES

MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS LIMITED. 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH. Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576.

FLAT SHARING

SW15 - 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living areas. Tel: 01-262 1555.

RENTALS

AMERICAN CO. week 2 bed flat. Tel: 01-262 1555.

FOR SALE

18 CARAT 18K GOLD. Tel: 01-262 1555.

SERVICES

FINN FRIENDSHIP. Tel: 01-262 1555.

RENTALS

KEITH CARDALE GROVES. Tel: 01-262 1555.

RENTALS

RENTALS. Tel: 01-262 1555.

CHESEA

4 bed family house, 2 bath, double garage. Tel: 01-262 1555.

CHESEA/FULHAM

Well dec 4 bed house, 2 bath, large double garage. Tel: 01-262 1555.

COUNTRY & CITY PROPERTY SERVICES

Landlords need your properties for the very best tenants. Tel: 01-262 1555.

SHORT LETS

S.M.E. - Exclusive flat for 1 mature person. Tel: 01-262 1555.

SITUATIONS WANTED

GERMAN GRADUATE Engineer, 47 years, seeks employment. Tel: 01-262 1555.

ANIMALS AND BIRDS

TWEEVIE, SUSSEX, Country cottage with 2 cats. Tel: 01-262 1555.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GASLIGHT of St James's, London's most exciting restaurant. Tel: 01-262 1555.

FLAT SHARING

SW15, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living areas. Tel: 01-262 1555.

RENTALS

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COUNTRY PROPERTY

BURGESS HILL - SUSSEX. 1912 - 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living areas. Tel: 01-262 1555.

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

SAVANA, COSTA RICA. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living areas. Tel: 01-262 1555.

PROPERTY TO LET

PROPERTY TO LET. Tel: 01-262 1555.

COMMERCIAL SERVICES

COMMERCIAL SERVICES. Tel: 01-262 1555.

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

invites applications for the post of REVISER. Tel: 01-262 1555.

MANAGEMENT TRAINER/MIDDLE EAST

Middle East Management training and consultancy firm looking for an Arabic trainer/consultant. Tel: 01-262 1555.

SALES DIRECTOR

HIGH TECHNOLOGY NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING EQUIPMENT. Tel: 01-262 1555.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER

SINGAPORE. The AVLAU Group of Companies, established in Singapore and Indonesia are leaders in the field of design and manufacturing of process production equipment. Tel: 01-262 1555.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH. Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576.

PRINT SALES - NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

LONDON, NATIONWIDE BASED BIRMINGHAM. £15,000 - £22,000 + CAR. Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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BIRTHS

BAUERLE-HEBER. On January 18 to 19, a son, David, to Mrs. Bauerle-Heber and Mr. Bauerle-Heber. Tel: 01-262 1555.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS. Tel: 01-262 1555.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Helping cancer patients at our headquarters in London. Tel: 01-262 1555.

THE AMERICAN CHILD - IS HE A MONSTER?

Find out by spending next summer as a camp counselor in an American Camp. Tel: 01-262 1555.

BIRTHDAYS

I LOVE YOU LILY WHITE. A happy birthday. Tel: 01-262 1555.

DEATHS

DEATHS. Tel: 01-262 1555.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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LOW SEASON

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EUROPEAN FLIGHTS

EUROPEAN FLIGHTS. Tel: 01-262 1555.

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LOWEST AIR FARES

LOWEST AIR FARES. Tel: 01-262 1555.

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A new, wide ranging, monthly working newsletter for manufacturers, retailers, designers and teachers interested in design. Tel: 01-262 1555.

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DESIGN BRIEF

Terms for British rebate

From Ian Murray Brussels
New and very carefully thought out proposals, designed to give Britain back a net £500m of its 1982 EEC budget contributions...

The proposals have been devised to try to meet the requirements laid down by Parliament last month for approving the rebate. Parliament's budgetary committee will study them in depth next week.

The Commission would also hang on to 10 per cent of all the rebate money until such time as it was satisfied that there had been "proper control" of the way it was being spent.



Police officers being trained as marksmen at the Metropolitan Police Firearms Training School in Epping Forest (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)

Gun instructors' morale high despite grave concern

By Michael Horsnell
A police constable from Scotland Yard's Special Patrol Group eased his stomach to the floor, took aim, and fired 10 bullets from his Smith and Wesson .38 revolver into the cardboard target 25 metres away.

Threat of new Falklands conflict

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The Government will be particularly likely to err on the side of caution because of the political embarrassment which would arise from a successful Argentine incursion.

Frank Johnson in the Commons After TV-am worldwide vision takes a bow

Mr Edward Heath last night made another of those weighty contributions of his to an economic debate. The speech was an enjoyable example of Late Heath, a more genial almost chattering style than the artist's darker early and middle periods.

What was it, we all wondered, this World Wide Vision? A picture was conjured up of the well-mannered, refreshingly gentle Sir Geoffrey checking up on his civil servants in the manner suggested by Mr Heath.

Well, actually, Chancellor, if you're thinking of buying a video, Fiona, and I swear by our Sony World Wide Vision may be OK, but they do sound British. On the other hand, it could be the name a Jap firm uses for our market, in which case you're all right.

Members were far more interested in the earlier attraction of Mr Ronald Brown, the Social Democrat member for Hackney South, moving to arraign Mr Kenneth Livingstone before the Committee of Privileges for allegedly threatening the constituencies of London MPs with cuts in services unless the MPs voted in the House as the GLC wanted.

Peace treaty proposal

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However, that Parliament and the Falkland islanders would grow to appreciate, over a period anyway, that a leaseback deal was the only alternative to creating a Fortress Falklands.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events
Royal engagements
The Duke of Gloucester, President, The Royal Smithfield Club, attends the council meeting and luncheon at Butchers' Hall, London, 11.15.

Collection: a selection of paintings by leading British artists, Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9, closed Sun; (until Feb 26).

Recent Paintings by Simon Bets, City Museum & Art Gallery, Priestsgate, Peterborough, Tues to Sat 12 to 5; (until Jan 29).

New books - paperback
A selection of interesting books published this week: Loneliness by Irma Kurtz (Blackwell, £2.95).

The papers
The Government boasts of its success in reducing inflation, but says the Daily Mirror, but each percentage point by which it has fallen has been paid for by another million unemployed.

Roads
London and South-east: Congestion on New Cross one-way system due to roadworks on Queens Road, A309; Kingston by-pass only use lane open westbound near Manor Road South, A5; Temporary signals near M1 junction at Flamstead, Hertfordshire.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,032
A crossword puzzle grid with numbers in the starting squares.

Anniversaries
Births: Wolfe Tone, Irish nationalist, Dublin, 1763; André-Marie Ampère, physicist, Lyon, 1775; Deaths: David Garrick, London, 1779; John Ruskin, Coniston, Cumbria, 1900; George V (accessed May 6, 1910); Sandringham, Norfolk, 1936.

The pound
Bank Buys: 1.66, 1.69, 27.98, 23.10, 81.50, 77.09, 1.99, 1.91, 13.85, 13.15, 8.90, 8.20, 11.10, 10.60, 3.95, 3.73, 152.00, 138.00, 10.59, 69.04, 1.19, 1.13, 222.00, 212.00, 394.00, 368.00, 4.34, 4.10, 11.61, 10.96, 185.00, 158.00, 2.05, 1.90, 295.25, 195.25, 12.08, 11.43, 3.25, 3.05, 1.62, 1.56, 134.00, 125.00.

Travel information
Pre-recorded information on rail, road, air and sea travel in this country and on the Continent is available on British Telecom's Traveline information system.

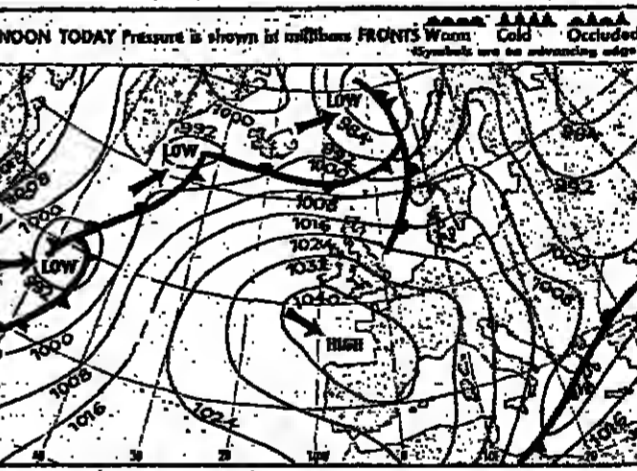
Lighting-up time
London 4.59 pm to 7.24 am; Birmingham 4.50 pm to 7.27 am; Edinburgh 4.38 pm to 7.41 am; Newcastle 6.28 pm to 7.41 am.

ACROSS
1 Militant has incomplete view on start of play (8).
6 Blood of claret for political alliance (6).
9 Story nobody wants to hear in magazine (6).
10 Soft touch of midshipman, note (4).

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Motions on rate support grant orders for England.
Lords (3): Data Protection Bill, second reading. Debate on energy costs.

Our address
Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to: Cathy James, TTIS, The Times, PO Box 7, 201 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

Blood donors
Blood donations from 25,000 people are needed every week to maintain hospital supplies in this country.



High tides
London Bridge AM HT PM HT
Aberdeen 5.08 37.45 8.29
Abermouth 11.7 10.54 11.4

Around Britain
Sun Rain Max
Southwest 4.0 - 4.39 Sunny
Wessex 4.0 - 4.39 Sunny

Abroad
MIDDAY: c, clear; d, drizzle; f, fair; n, mist; o, overcast; s, sun; w, wind; x, snow.
Algeria 1 15 20
Algeria 1 15 20

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